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Hafa Adai!

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75¢

CBP denies XTRAirways landing right

By BEA CABRERA
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REPORTER

U.S. Customs and Border Protection stands by its decision to deny XTRAirways landing rights at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport because the schedule of nighttime flights arriving from China is currently full.

The agency just doesn't have the manpower to accommodate another nighttime flight at the Saipan airport, according to CBP director for NMI Robert Havens.

"We are denying them to fly the night schedule from 12 midnight to 6am because we just do not have enough resources to properly process

See CBP on Page 4

Casino 'white paper' in the works

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

The administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres is currently working on what his administration calls a "white paper" that seeks to briefly but thoroughly explain several aspects of the lone casino in the CNMI.

See CASINO on Page 4

Gunshot rumors erupt over weekend

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The police sent lawmen to Dandan and its environs on Saturday night after receiving a call that gunshots were heard coming from a car in the area.

See GUNSHOT on Page 4

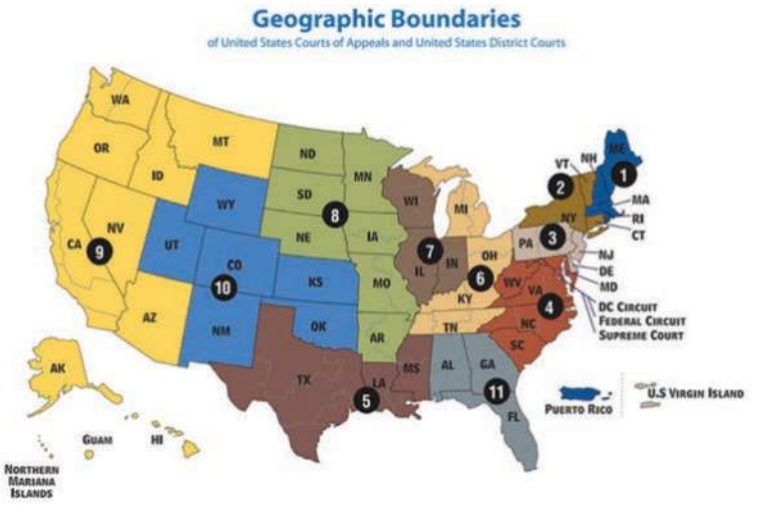
Republicans pushing to slice up the 9th Circuit Court

By KIRSTIN DOWNEY
CIVIL BEAT

Congressional Republicans, with President Donald Trump's encouragement, are pushing ahead with a proposal to shrink the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, the federal appellate court that covers Hawaii and the Northern Mariana Islands

On Thursday, U.S. Sen. Jeff Flake,

See REPUBLICANS on Page 4



SIGNING UP KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

Personnel at the registration table help individuals who wanted to avail of medical mission services yesterday at the Garapan basketball court. The Pentecostal Missionary Church of Christ (4th Watch) conducted its annual medical mission to celebrate its 15th year of offering free services.

INSIDE

BUSINESS
Key oil and gas facilities along the Texas Gulf Coast have temporarily shut down.

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NATION
Hurricane Harvey kills at least two people and injures up to 14.

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ASIA
A teenager at the center of the outcry against a bloody crackdown against illegal drugs is buried.

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Local

Palacios: HR 339 may affect CNMI devt

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

The enactment of a bill that made changes to the foreign worker program in the CNMI—the CW-1 program—concerns Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan), specifically the construction worker provision.

U.S. President Donald J. Trump enacted Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan's (Ind-MP) H.R. 339 last week, opening up a 350 more CW-1 slots, increases the amount of CW-1 fees that employers pay, and excludes post fiscal year 2016 construction workers from the CW-1 program.

Palacios said he is most concerned about the construction worker provision of the new law as incoming foreign construction workers are now unable to work under the CW-1 program and employers are now required to secure H2-B visas for these workers.

Citing the construction worker crisis in Guam, Palacios hopes that "everything will be fine" in the CNMI compared to Guam.

"I hope everything will be fine, considering the situation what Guam is experiencing with construction workers under H2-B," he said.

Guam has had an almost 100-percent rejection rate for construction workers under the H2-B visa program.

Palacios also pointed out that aging construction workers might be a problem since the new law omits newer CW-1 construction worker applications.

"At the end of the day, [assuming] that we got the CW-1 program extended, that provision means we still couldn't bring in construction workers unless they have been here [prior to the accepted date]," he said.

» Palacios cites construction worries in Guam

"From the very beginning that was a cause for concern and that provision kind of restricted ourselves. I hope we didn't shoot ourselves in the foot with [this provision]," he said, adding that Congress did not even give half of Sablan's initial request of 2,002.

Trump enacted Sablan's HR 339 into law last Wednesday morning, signifying for the first time in the CW-1 program's history an increase in slots. Besides the increase in slots, which also for the first time assigned 60 slots to the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. for health-related professions and 10 slots to the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation for engineers, the new law removes construction workers from the CW-1 program and increases to $200 the education fee employers are required to pay when petitioning a foreign worker.

The fee is to be used to fund the education of U.S.-eligible workers and U.S. permanent residents.

Sablan reiterated during his press conference last week that H.R. 339 was meant to be a "short-term solution" to the problems raised from the horde of Chinese construction workers hogging 4,000 CW-1 slots. Sablan added that a longer-term solution for the CW-1 crisis is in the works.

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Judge dismisses theft charge vs defendant

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The theft charge against one of three men accused of stealing copper wire from the Imperial Pacific International Ltd.'s compound in Lower Base was dismissed Friday as a prosecutor's failed to ask the value of the alleged stolen copper wire.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho however, found probable cause to charge John Jones Sellem with conspiracy to commit theft.

Camacho found no probable cause to believe that the crime of theft was committed and that the 34-year-old Sellem may have committed the offense.

The judge dismissed without prejudice the charge of theft against Sellem, which means the government may re-file the case in the future.

Camacho said the government failed to prove one element of the charge, which is the value of the stolen item.

Copper wire does have value, but the Office of the Attorney General is still required to present evidence or testimony that the items taken has value, Camacho said.

The judge noted that assistant attorney general Jonathan Wilberscheid failed to ask the government's witness, police detective John K. Wabol, any questions about the value of the items taken.

Steven Pixley appeared as court-appointed counsel for Sellem.

After the hearing, Sellem was remanded into the custody of the Department of Corrections. Arraignment will be held today, Aug. 28, at 9am.

According to Wabol, Mario O. Sablan and Frank T. Pangelinan were first arrested last July 2.

Wabol said Sablan, however, identified Sellem as their companion who managed to run away when they stole copper wire at the IPI compound last May 3.

It was Sellem who allegedly directed them to the IPI storage compound in Lower Base.

Wabol said an employee of IPI saw the three suspects stealing copper wire worth $1,018. The employee flagged down two police officers who happened to be in the area.

As a result, Sablan and Pangelinan were arrested at the scene. Sellem allegedly managed to run away. Sellem was arrested recently in Upper Miha in Garapan.

Wind advisory for small craft

Based on information received from the National Weather Service in Tiyan, Guam, and compiled at the CNMI Emergency Operations Center State Warning Point, a small craft advisory for winds is in effect from 4am Monday to 4am Wednesday on the three islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

Southwesterly winds of 20 to 25 knots with higher gusts will begin early Monday morning and continue through Tuesday night. These winds are in response to a tropical disturbance over the Northern Marianas.

The public and inexperienced mariners, especially those operating smaller vessels, should avoid sailing in these conditions. ***(EOC)***

MEDICAL OUTREACH
Members of the Dalaw Kalinga Foundation of the Pentecostal Missionary Church of Christ (4th Watch) Saipan have their picture taken after a medical outreach yesterday, Aug. 27, at the Garapan Basketball court across the Carolinian Utt. KIMBERLY BAUTISTA

Castro's motion to dismiss traffic citation OK'd

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Corrections director Gregory Frank Taitano Castro's motion to have the traffic citation issued against him be dismissed was granted Friday.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho ruled that the charging document filed against Castro does not contain elements of the offense he is charged with and fails to inform him of the charges against which he must defend himself.

The judge said the charging document does not provide sufficient information to enable Castro to plead an acquittal or conviction.

Castro was issued a traffic citation over the alleged misuse of a government vehicle.

Due to the government's failure to make timely discovery, the late hour of discovery, and the government's motion to amend the citation from a non-violation to a code section with three possible offenses, Camacho said there is good cause shown to allow Castro to raise this issue after the start of trial.

Camacho said there is nothing on the record to show that the insufficient citation was supplemented by discovery, enough to put Castro on notice.

He said Castro must defend against a charge that entails up to three possible offenses.

"The citation in its present form is insufficient to put the defendant on notice," Camacho said.

The judge said the traffic citation provided in this case, which only lists the code section without providing elements or factual basis, in not enough to put Castro on notice of the charges against him as required by the Sixth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

Camacho said the U.S. and CNMI constitutions require that the citation be dismissed as deficient.

With Camacho's ruling, Castro still needs to make a formal motion to dismiss the case.

The traffic citation charged Castro with four offenses: Operating a government vehicle for a purpose other than official government business, operating a government vehicle with tinting on its windows, operating a government vehicle without government identification markings on the front doors, and operating a government vehicle without government license plate.

The bench trial of Castro commenced last July 10. That same day, the government moved to amend one charge. The judge granted the request.

Last July 10 and 11, Castro, through counsel Rene Holmes, asked that the court to reconsider its order allowing assistant attorney general Jonathan Wilberscheid to amend one charge in the citation.

Holmes pointed out that the citation did not provide adequate notice of the charges and thus violated Castro's right to due process. Holmes moved to dismiss the case and also asked the court to reconsider its ruling regarding amending the citation.

The Office of the Public Auditor allegedly caught Castro using an unmarked DOC vehicle going to the Marianas Country Club in Marpi in the morning of March 15, 2017, to play golf. The vehicle had civilian plate number and tinted windows. He allegedly played golf with his brother for three hours.

Castro, 58, pleaded not guilty.

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Separate account for casino earnings pushed

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Senate has offered its own version of a House bill that intends to open a separate account for casino gross revenue tax that would set it apart from the general fund.

Rep. Angel Demapan (R-Saipan)'s House Bill 20-99 passed the House in late July 2017. The Senate is currently in possession of the bill but a substitute was introduced at a session last week.

The Senate version now seeks to re-appropriate the annual casino license fee of $15 million. Both Rota and Tinian would receive $2 million each while the remaining $9.5 million goes to Saipan.

The remaining $1.5 million would be appropriated to the Saipan High Education Financial Assistance program.

The Senate substitute still separates casino-generated gross revenue tax from the general funds but the first $22 million would be designated to cover the payment of 25 percent of full benefits and bonuses of retirees from Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

The bill also calls for the Finance secretary to establish and maintain a "Commonwealth Casino Application Fee Special Fund." This fund is proposed to consist of the nonrefundable license applications.

After the $22 million is set aside, the remaining casino-generated gross revenue tax would be appropriated to the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., the Medical Referral Program, the Public School System, and the payment of land compensation judgments. The bill adds both the Northern Marianas College and the Northern Marianas Trades Institute as recipients of the fund.

HB 20-99 SS1 also renames the levelized energy adjustment clause, or LEAC, into the fuel adjustment charge, or FAC. The bill seeks to create the FAC rate subsidy account, and is also subject to receive funds from casino-generated gross revenue tax.

Lastly, the bill seeks to set aside $7.5 million of casino-generated gross revenue taxes for fiscal years 2017 and 2018 to a special subaccount for use in 2018 to start the appropriation of the $2 million for Tinian and Rota, the $9.5 million for Saipan, and the $1.5 million for SHEFA.

To keep up with all the appropriations mentioned, the Finance secretary is required to report to the Legislature how the $2 million set for Tinian and Rota is spent.

REPUBLICANS

From Page 1

a Republican from Arizona, held a field hearing n his home state of the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Privacy, Technology and the Law, which he chairs, to discuss how and whether to split the 9th Circuit into two parts.

He has proposed legislation, S 276, co-sponsored by Sen. John McCain, also of Arizona, and Sen. Dean Heller, a Republican from Nevada, that would restructure the appellate court and reduce its size.

The 9th Circuit, the court system's largest appellate district, encompasses 12 states, including California and Hawaii. It stretches from Alaska through the Pacific Northwest to Nevada and Arizona, and from the Northern Mariana Islands to Montana, representing about 40 percent of the country's land mass and 20 percent of its population.

There are varying proposals about how to chop it up. One plan involves splitting off Washington, Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Nevada and Arizona, creating a new circuit court that would become a new 12th District. The present 9th Circuit would be shrunk to include California, Hawaii and the U.S. territories of Guam and the Northern Marianas.

Another plan would carve out California as a separate district of its own, and place Hawaii instead with Alaska, Arizona, Montana, Nevada and Oregon.

Judges and lawyers from throughout Hawaii are strongly opposing the proposal, saying it would hurt judicial administration in the state.

Hawaii Bar Association President Nadine Ando wrote that splitting up the 9th Circuit would be expensive and unnecessary, "as there is no compelling empirical evidence of adjudicative or administrative dysfunction in the existing structure."

"These proposed measures are not in the public interest," Ando wrote on Aug. 1.

In addition to the state bar association, the justices of Hawaii's Supreme Court, and separately, a group of district, magistrate and bankruptcy judges have written to the Senate Judiciary Committee opposing the plan.

The justices of the Hawaii Supreme Court said that the 9th Circuit is large enough to be able to operate programs that help pro bono lawyers in Hawaii represent indigent clients more effectively and has presented legal training programs at the University of Hawaii William S. Richardson School of Law.

"In sum, we are concerned about the effect of fundamentally restructuring an institution that is working well in its current form," the justices wrote on Aug. 7.

Critics of the 9th Circuit say that it is necessary to subdivide the appellate court because it has grown large and unwieldy.

But what conservative Republicans most dislike about it is its long reputation as a liberal appeals court where environmental advocacy, consumer protection, workers' rights, gun control and immigration cases are more likely to prevail than elsewhere in the country.

U.S. Rep. Andy Biggs, a Republican from Arizona who has sponsored a bill, HR 250, to reconfigure the 9th Circuit, said he was proposing the measure to "free Arizona from the burdensome and undue influence of the 9th Circuit Court."

"The 9th Circuit cannot handle the number of states currently entrapped within its jurisdiction, causing access to justice to be delayed," Biggs said in a press release in January.

CASINO

From Page 1

According to an administration statement, the document is meant to "provide as much clarity as possible to policymakers to provide them the necessary information about the CNMI's gaming market."

The matter was discussed briefly during Thursday's Commonwealth Casino Commission meeting, with Torres' chief of staff Matt Deleon Guerrero attending.

"We've been informed by the Office of the Governor that the CNMI government is putting together a white paper, apparently intended to be produced to the…U.S. Senate," said the commission's executive director, Edward Deleon Guerrero.

According to the administration statement, the "white paper" would focus heavily on the "Macau model of gaming" and how it differentiates from the standard U.S. model of gaming.

The document would also address topics such as how the "Macau model" has been adjusted to conform to U.S. gaming and money laundering regulations as well as local regulatory concerns.

"[The government is] looking into regulatory capabilities and we have assured them that we have a robust regime in place to regulate [the industry]," said Edward Deleon Guerrero.

"[The white paper intends to answer] how the regulatory protections set by the CNMI limits the opportunities for money laundering in accordance with the Anti-Money Laundering Act, the Bank Secrecy Act, and other financial crime protections of the United States," the administration statement adds.

The "white paper" will highlight the significance of the casino industry for the "economic growth of the CNMI" as well as the significance of junket operators for a casino industry in a remote area such as the CNMI.

Edward Deleon Guerrero cited the location of the CNMI as well as the fact that there is only one casino here to emphasize the significant role of junket operators—agents who finance high rollers—"to the sustainability of this gaming industry."

"We as regulators are contributing toward putting together what is our understanding of operations, how they are dealt with, and [how we] are trying to regulate it."

CBP

From Page 1

that flight in a timely fashion. We prefer for them not to fly in at night because it would create more problems in the end rather than fix anything," he said.

According to Havens, there are currently nine airlines that fly in within the midnight to 6am schedule. The nine carriers are Jeju Air, Jin Air, HK Express, HK Airlines, Beijing Capital, T'Way, Eastar, China Eastern, and Philippine Airlines.

XTRAirways plans to have three flights a week from China, with 4am and 5am arrival times.

"The CBP doesn't want to ever say no to a plane, to a route, and we want the airlines to look at different options before they proceed," Havens said.

The night schedule from midnight to 6am is notorious for long immigration lines that last three to four hours and the Commonwealth Ports Authority, CBP, and Marianas Visitors Authority have been working to decongest the lines.

CBP did give XTRAirways three options so they could start operations. The first was for XTRAirways to have an afternoon flight; second, approval from Commonwealth Ports Authority; and third, enrolment in the CBPO Reimbursible Services Program.

Havens said the afternoon flights from 12pm to 6pm has a huge opening, the CBP has plenty of available officers and staff for those hours, and there are not a lot of flights jostling for those slots.

"CPA can give them approval. If CPA approves an airline—even though I know we can't fit that airline in but CBP does not want to hurt any business—if CPA thinks they can handle the airline, we say yes," Haven said.

He added "CPA is, however, careful too of the practice because when the passengers are over there and are waiting three to four hours to come into the room, they sometimes get out of control.

"CPA now has to send a police officer or two to monitor the line. It requires extra staffing and effort on both CPA and CBP. All those water dispensers in the line area, CPA brought that in to aid in the passengers' comfort. But there is only so much you can do when you bring in more people than there are available processing officers."

Havens said CPA also negotiates aggressively to move the flights. In the case of Beijing Capital Airlines, CPA and CBP both negotiated with Beijing Capital.

"We finally allowed Beijing Air to have one flight in the morning and one flight in the afternoon. CPA was key to all those negotiations. CPA has its own requirements for the airport and the airlines have to fly within their parameters and at the same time within CBP parameters."

"Every negotiations we have, we conduct with CPA. But if CPA approves XTRAirways, we would consider approving them at night," he added.

According to Havens, the CBP Reimbursible Services Program enables partnerships between CBP and the private sector or government entities that allow CBP to provide additional inspections.

"It doesn't mean that an airline can fly and push right in the middle of the normal shift because even if I were to fully staff all the booths and another airline enrolled in the RSP comes in, it doesn't matter because we cannot work that airline because there are no more booths."

He added, "So RSP allows the airline to come at the beginning, earlier than most of the other flights are or at the end of all other flights and so we push our flight on overtime so it arrives at 7pm and so the last hour of the flight will be processed on overtime."

"It takes that little window that we have and increases the window length for the airlines because we are able to bring in an officer for additional times. If they apply for the timeslot, we approve them. If they don't pay, they get into trouble," Havens said.

According to Havens the options were given to XTRAirways and that CBP was clear that they cannot fly within the 12am-6am schedule right now.

"We are very consistent with every single airline with the way we treat them. If we don't have a slot available, we won't approve that airline for that slot. CBP does not want to deny any airline that would come and bring in new flight service to the CNMI. We are doing our best to negotiate the best time for new and upcoming flights," Havens said.

"We feel bad, we know that XTRAirways is an American carrier but there is nothing we can do. It will be irresponsible for me to approve them at this time," Havens added.

GUNSHOT

From Page 1

Public Safety spokesman Sgt. Jason Tarkong said police did investigate a call about gunshots in Dandan but no one confirmed the active shooter incident.

Tarkong said there were reports about possibly the sound of someone shooting a gun in Dandan.

He said police checked the area but there was no sight of a shooter.

The Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services posted in its Facebook page that preliminary information from DPS is that a white four-door sedan sped away and that gunshots were heard from the direction of the fleeing car in Dandan.

DFEMS said no injuries were reported and that no actual eyewitnesses were identified.

Police were then patrolling in Dandan and its vicinity to ascertain what's going on.

DFEMS urged anyone who has more information about the incident to call DPS.

Employees at several stores in Dandan and San Vicente were alarmed about the alleged shooting as some customers informed them about the reports.

A lot of people talked about the shooting incident on social media.

It was not the first time that *Saipan Tribune* heard about this type of rumor as an alleged shooting incident in Dandan and San Vicente also circulated on social media a few months ago.

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2017 NISSAN TITAN SV 4WD - 20% downpayment. Financing at 5.4% APR for 72 monthly payments of $742.81 or $342.84 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment $53,482.32.

National GOP leaders call for equal US citizenship

National Republican Party leaders repudiated the unequal citizenship of Americans living in the country's territories during a meeting of the Republican National Committee on Friday in Nashville.

The Republican National Committee did so with the passage of a resolution titled "Affirming the Equal Citizenship for All Americans." The resolution's sponsor was the Virgin Islands' national committeeman, Jevon Williams.

"The Republican National Committee calls upon Congress to ensure that American citizens residing in the territories of Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands and the Virgin Islands have unfettered enjoyment of their American citizenship, including the Second Amendment of the United States Constitution," states the resolution.

"All Americans must be able to enjoy the full benefits of their citizenship," said Williams, who serves in the Army National Guard. "For too long, Washington has ignored Americans in the territories, a disproportionate number of whom wear the uniform defending the freedoms and liberties that define us as Americans, including basic constitutional rights that are wrongly denied to them."

The resolution will now be sent to President Trump, Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke, House Speaker Paul Ryan, and Senate Majority Mitch McConnell.

Americans in the territories are U.S. citizens, but do not receive full enjoyment of their citizenship. In addition to being denied both a vote for president and full congressional representation, not all provisions of the Constitution have been extended to the territories.

The legal basis for two classes of U.S. citizenship derives from the Insular Cases, a series of Supreme Court rulings dating to the late 1890s when some of the territories were first acquired. The principal author of the Insular Cases legal doctrine was Justice Henry Brown, who also authored the high court's notorious racist and pro-segregationist ruling in *Plessy v. Ferguson*.

All 56 states and territories are represented on the 168-member Republican National Committee by the party chairman, committeewoman, and committeeman.

American Samoa is the fifth territory, but American Samoans are U.S. nationals, not citizens. ***(PR)***

Sobriety checkpoints this week

The Highway Patrol Section of the Department of Public Safety will be setting up sobriety checkpoints on Saipan this week.

On Wednesday, Aug. 30, the first setup from 7:30pm to 9:30pm will cover the area from Beach Road Garapan to San Antonio. The second setup from 10:30pm to 12:30am will cover the highway from Chalan Pale Arnold in Puerto Rico to Chalan Laulau.

On Sept. 2, the first setup from 6:30pm to 8:20pm will cover the area from Chalan Pale Arnold in Garapan to Chalan Laulau. A second setup from 9:30pm to 11:30pm will cover the area from Chalan Monsignor Guerrero in San Jose to Dandan.

Rota DPS will also be conducting DUI/sobriety checkpoints this week.

On Aug. 29, the first setup is from 7pm to 8:15pm along the San Francisco highway Guata area. The second setup is from 11pm to 12:15am along the San Francisco highway Sonton area.

On Aug. 31, the first setup from 7pm to 8:15pm will be along the San Francisco Highway Lotgan area. The second setup from 11pm to 12:15am will be along the San Francisco highway Tatgua area.

On Sept. 1, the first setup from 7pm to 8:15pm will be along San Francisco Highway by Sinapalo 3. The second setup from 11pm to 12:15am will be along San Francisco Highway by the Pinatang Park.

Traffic and patrol officers will also be conducting highway criminal interdictions, saturation patrols, aggressive driver interdictions, and laser (speed detection) enforcement.

Each checkpoint will last at least 75 minutes (one hour and 15 minutes). ***(Saipan Tribune)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Military training at Farallon de Medinilla

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. military will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla during the following dates and times:

- Aug. 28, from 12:30pm to 9pm
- Aug. 29, from 8:30am to 5pm
- Aug. 30, from 6 am to 3pm

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be in a 12-nautical mile radius of the island. ***(PR)***

PH consular outreach in September

The Philippine Consulate General in Guam will be holding a mobile outreach on Saipan on Sept. 8 to Sept. 11 at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. It will accommodate 640 applicants who pre-registered for passport renewal.

If an individual wants to avail of one of the 640 slots available for the outreach program, they must call the office of Philippine honorary consul to the Commonwealth Glicerio Arago at 233-6293. The individual has to set up the renewal appointment with Mel Santos. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

Class of 1987 gears up for 30-year reunion

The Marianas High School Class of 1987 will be having its 30th-year class reunion on Sept. 23. The reunion is open to any CNMI Class of 1987 graduate, regardless of which high school they graduated from. A Mass in honor of departed classmates will be held at the San Antonio Church on Sept. 23, 2017, at 4pm. The reunion will follow immediately after the Mass, from 5:30pm to 10pm, at the Surf Club (beach side) in Chalan Kanoa, the former Pacific Gardenia Sunset Bar and Grill. To purchase a reunion ticket or to get more information, send an email to cnmiclassof87@gmail.com or join the CNMI Class of '87 Facebook for updates on the reunion event and/or to request for ticket. ***(PR)***

Free cat adoption month

Saipan's animal welfare group, Saipan Cares for Animals, is hosting a free cat adoption month until the end of August. All cat and kitten adoptions are free until the end of the month on Aug. 31. Call Beth at 285-5448 or visit www.SaipanCaresforAnimals.com to find out more. ***(CSA)***

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Head Start Policy Council
FINAL Meeting Agenda

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Head Start Policy Council hereby gives notice that it will have a Special Meeting on Tuesday, August 29, 2017 at 5:00p.m., at the Office of Systems of Care Hali Ina'guiaya, 1st Floor Alexander Bldg., Oleai, Saipan.

I. Preliminary Matters
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Quorum
4. Adoption of Agenda
5. Adoption of Minutes
   a. July 19, 2017 Special Meeting

II. Public Comments

III. Communications
1. State Board of Education
2. Office of Head Start

IV. Reports
1. Financial Status
2. Program
3. Center/Community Representatives

V. Old Business

VI. New Business
1. Head Start Carry Over request – 09CH9165-04-01
2. Head Start Transportation Waiver
3. Program Information Report
   a. Head Start Program – 09CH09165
   b. Early Head Start Program -09HP0029
4. Head Start/Early Head Start Organizational Chart
5. Alternative Certification
   a. Early Childhood Education – Infant and Toddlers
   b. Early Childhood Education - Preschool

VII. Miscellaneous
VIII. Executive Session2
IX. Next Meeting
X. Adjournment

This meeting is open to the public, interested individuals are welcome to attend. Any person(s) requiring special accommodations may contact Mrs. Candace Q. Celis at (670) 664-3761 or email address at candace.celis@cnmipss.org, several days of notice is required.

/s/ Ana Ada
Chairwoman

[1] Pursuant to BOE Policy 0415, public comments are limited to 30 minutes. We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.
[2] Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Council may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONS LICENSING BOARD
P.O. Box 502078, Bldg., 1242 Pohnpei Court
Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel No: (670) 664-4809 Fax: (670) 664-4814
Email: cnmi@cnmibpl-hcplb.net
Website: cnmibpl-hcplb.net

Pursuant to P.L. 8-41, Section 11, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Health Care Professions Licensing Board (HCPLB) are hereby giving notice that it will hold a Special Board meeting on ***Tuesday, August 29, 2017 at 7:30am*** on Saipan. The meeting will be held at the Commonwealth Health Center, Wellness Center Conference Room.

AGENDA

I. Meeting Call to Order

II. Determination of Quorum

III. Review and Adoption of Agenda

IV. Executive Session: The Board may vote to meet in in executive session to consult with counsel with pending or anticipated legal matters.
A. Resolution of HCPLB Case # 2017-002

V. Announcements
A. Next Meeting Date

VI. Adjournment of Meeting

/s/ Theodore R. Parker, R.Ph., MPH
Chairman

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
Division of Coastal Resources Management
P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315
www.crm.gov.mp

Frank M. Rabauliman
Administrator

Janice E. Castro
Acting Director

PUBLIC NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE CRM AGENCY OFFICIALS

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog through the Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) hereby give notice that a CRM Agency Officials meeting will be held on ***Wednesday, September 13, 2017 at 9:30AM*** at the BECQ 2nd Floor Main Conference Room, Lower Gualo Rai, Saipan.

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
A. Call to Order
B. Roll Call
C. Adoption of Agenda
D. Adoption of August 02, 2017 Meeting Minutes

II. PERMIT APPLICATION REVIEW
Project: SAIPAN GLOBE HOTEL
CRM Permit Application No. SMS-2017-X-055
a) Discussion of Application Status
b) CRM Permit Application Final Determination

III. OTHER MATTERS
A. Proposed Changes to the CRM Regulations

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

V. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony regarding the above agenda items. (NOTE: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) (7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session).

/s/ JANICE E. CASTRO
Acting Director, DCRM

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INVITATION FOR BIDS
NMHC IFB 2017-005
(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

BID SUBMISSION DATE: MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2017
TIME: 10:00 AM

RENOVATION OF EXISTING TINIAN GYMNASIUM

The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, is hereby giving notice that NMHC is soliciting sealed bids for the Building Maintenance of NMHC's Housing Units in Tinian.

Interested individuals or firms may pick up a copy of the Project Package beginning Monday, August 28, 2017, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, or at the Tinian Field Office during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays.

A Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference will be held at the Tinian Mayors Office Conference Room on Tuesday, September 12, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. Bidders will have the opportunity to tour the housing subdivisions and inspect several housing units owned by NMHC that will be covered under the proposed contract. Attendance at this conference and site visit are considered essential to the bidders' understanding of the project elements and a company that does not have a representative in attendance at the pre-bid conference will be considered as a non-responsive bidder. Inquiries regarding this solicitation must be addressed in writing to the NMHC Corporate Director at P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 no later than 9:00 a.m., Friday, September 15, 2017.

NMHC reserves the right to reject any and all bids for any reason and to waive any defects in the bids if determined to be in its best interest. All bids received shall become the property of the Commonwealth Government.

/s/ Ignacio L. Perez
Board Chairman
& Contracting Officer

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Division of Procurement
& Supply

CUC: Road excavations due to lift station upgrades

By BEA CABRERA
bea_cabrera@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Excavations in major roads and thoroughfares on Saipan are mostly due to multiple wastewater lift stations that are undergoing upgrades, according to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

CUC deputy executive director William Gilmore said the utilities company is aware of the traffic its excavations have caused, but he asked for the public's patience as the lift station upgrades are necessary to improve the island's decades-old infrastructure.

"We are sensitive to the problems that had been caused by a lot these projects. We are sorry that the public has been inconvenienced," he said.

The project on the corner of Chalan Monsignor Deleon Guerrero and Middle Road near the Payless Shoe Source are upgrades to the W4, W5, and W6 lift stations. That construction work has lately come under criticism as it has been ongoing for sometime now and inconveniences motorists.

"On this project, we are trying to eliminate three for one lift station at that location. That means we are upsizing the pipes, deepening their location, adding a manhole for the corner, and [installing] a back-up generator," Gilmore said. "This reduces the number of lift stations we have to maintain."

He pointed out that the older lift stations are not very efficient. "The old lift stations took a lot to maintain, were to close to the road, dangerous to work on, and that's why it makes more sense to consolidate."

"The contractor is getting to a point where they are going to be off the road by next week so we are happy about that. They are trying to get as much as they can finish by the end of the month," he said.

Meanwhile, the project at the corner of Garapan Elementary School is funded by casino operator Best Sunshine International, Ltd.

"They agreed as part of their project since it is such a big facility— a casino and hotel project—that they would put in a new—we call S4—lift station. It was originally on the street. Now it's on the side of the road."

"The project is in a pause mode. What is currently built satisfies the casino. But once they start working on the hotel, then they will finish the entire project," he added.

According to Gilmore, the project near Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan was caused by a hole that collapsed seven months ago. That patch was fixed but someone drove over it so it collapsed again.

"Garapan has a problem, it has all those asbestos cement pipes that the Japanese put in some 40 years ago and they are at the end of their useful life so they're failing in a lot areas," he said.

"So they are collapsing, and we needed to repair that whole length of road. There's going to be big improvement. We are putting in PVC pipes that are bigger. The good news is, it is almost finished and the target is next month," Gilmore added.

He said the projects on major areas and road are indicators that progress is taking place.

"It has not been ideal but it has worked out to a point where we are just glad that things are coming to an end on a lot of these projects. Now everyone's going to have access to their clients, to do business, and flow of traffic will be much improved and we will all be very happy when that happens," Gilmore said.

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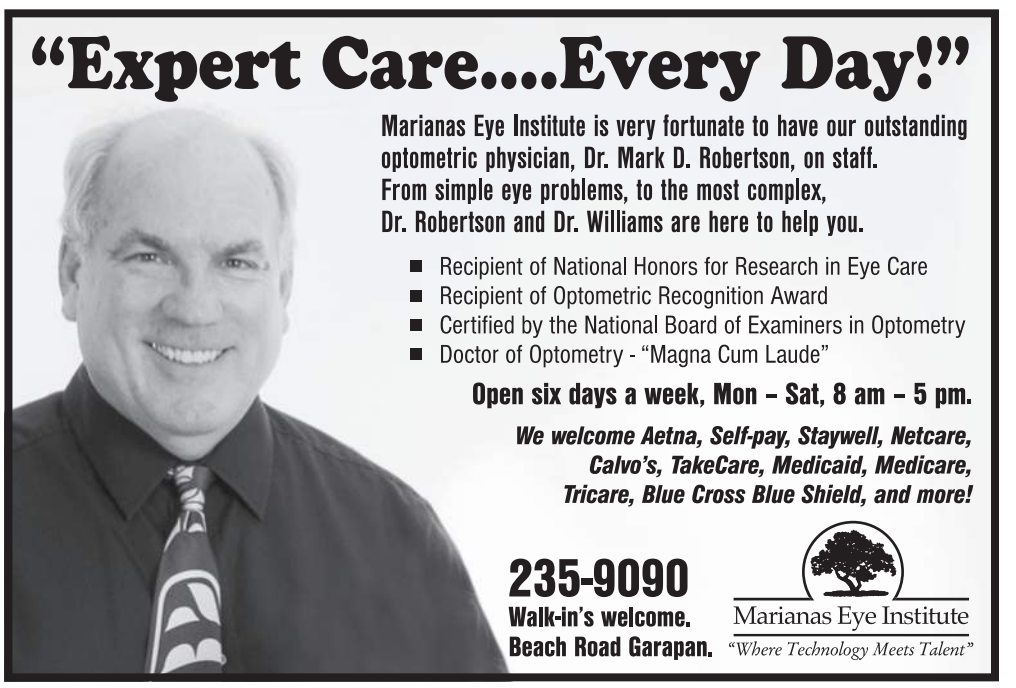
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RECRUITMENT DAY

Date: 30 Aug 2017 (Wednesday)
Time: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Venue: Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, Banquet Hall - Azucena

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IN LEGAL FIGHT AGAINST REMOVAL FROM CNMI

No settlement between DHS officials, mother of 2

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Officials of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and a Filipino mother of two have failed to reach a settlement on a pending case, and the mother has signified her intent to press ahead with the case.

Amalia Abo Guanlao, who has been living on Saipan for over 23 years now and is a mother of two U.S. children, both of them minors, did not accept the settlement terms offered by DHS.

At a status conference last Wednesday, Mark Scoggins, who was appointed to represent and assist Guanlao with the settlement, informed U.S. District Court for the NMI Magistrate Judge Heather Kennedy about the failure of negotiations with DHS.

According to the minutes of the conference, Scoggins told the court that Guanlao does not wish to dismiss her lawsuit.

Guanlao affirmed her decision not to settle and to pursue the case. She is challenging an order for her removal from the CNMI.

Since no settlement was reached, Kennedy relieved Scoggins and said that the case will proceed before U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona.

Kennedy set another status conference last Friday, at 9:30am before Manglona.

Guanlao asked the court if she could travel to Guam for medical purposes.

Kennedy told her that she would have to arrange that request with the local Enforcement and Removal Operations office.

Attorney Adrienne Zack, counsel for respondents, agreed and told Guanlao that she needs to coordinate that request with the local ERO office.

Aside from naming then-U.S. Department of Homeland Secretary Jeh Johnson as respondent, Guanlao also sued several U.S. immigration officials.

Guanlao is still seeking a lawyer in her lawsuit.

In a declaration filed in federal court, Guanlao disclosed that she has been having medical issues with her left breast and suffering back pain since 2013.

She said she needs an MRI and bone density scan, but there is no available facilities on Saipan.

She underwent an operation in the Philippines in 2008, but never had any follow-up check-up since then.

Guanlao said her husband has been working on Saipan since 1989.

Guanlao said their two children were born on Saipan. "They are the reason why I want to live longer," she said.

She narrated to the court about her efforts to talk to several lawyers, but to no avail.

Guanlao also disclosed that a lawyer applied her for humanitarian parole for $300 because of her medical condition.

She said her application was approved, but was later revoked by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services field director of Guam and CNMI.

"This is the main reason why I want to be with my kids," Guanlao said.

Guanlao said the CNMI Labor issued her a memorandum-authorization to seek temporary employer that can be renewed every three months, and that her employer needs to renew her temporary permit every three months.

She said CNMI Labor issued her the verification of umbrella permit and verification of arrival and departure for $25 each for her CW-1 but USCIS did not honor those documents and denied her CW-1 and CW-2 applications.

The U.S. Department of Justice agreed to stay Guanlao's case to allow her obtain new counsel and time to consider whether to withdraw or re-file the second amended petition.

Manglona has stayed Guanlao's removal while the court hears her petition.

WORK MEETING

Board of Education chair MaryLou S. Ada and vice chair Janice Ada Tenorio, along with Public School System management representatives, federal programs officer Tim Thornburgh, and associate commissioner Jackie Quitugua, met last week with Rep. Angel Demapan (R-Saipan), who chairs the House Ways and Means Committee. The meeting was to go over the spending plan for the supplemental appropriations for PSS.

PSS

Ex- casino employee alleges discrimination

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A former employee of Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC is suing the company in federal court for allegedly not acting on his complaint that he finds it difficult to stand and walk for long periods of time.

Dennis Campbell, through Jeanne H. Rayphand of the Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems Inc., is suing Imperial Pacific for violation of the American with Disabilities Act.

Campbell is suing for back pay plus interest, damages, attorney's fees, and court costs.

He alleged that Imperial Pacific discriminated against him by failing to provide reasonable accommodation and failing to engage in an interactive process as required by ADA, forcing his constructive termination from his job.

As of press time yesterday, Imperial Pacific had yet to comment on the lawsuit.

Campbell was a casino table dealer at Imperial Pacific and was later promoted to table games administrator, and then table games supervisor.

In April 2016, Rayphand said, when Campbell told his supervisor that he was having difficulty standing and walking for long periods of time, the casino management informed him that, if he were having medical issues, the Family and Medical Leave Act would be his best course of action.

On May 27, 2016, Rayphand said, Campbell asked Imperial Pacific's human resources department for reasonable accommodations. On June 1, 2016, Rayphand said, the department asked Campbell for a doctor's recommendation.

Campbell, however, did not receive that email because he had been blocked from and no longer had access to the company's email address, Rayphand said.

On June 3, 2016, Rayphand said, Campbell was forced to resign, and his resignation took effect on June 17, 2016.

Northern Marianas College
Procurement & Property Management Office
P.O. Box 501250 CK, Saipan, MP 96950 U.S.A.
Tel: (670) 234-5498 ext. 6824/23/22 • Fax: (670) 235-7601
E-mail: ppmo@marianas.edu • Website: www.marianas.edu

INVITATION FOR BIDS

NMC IFB 17-007
MAINTENANCE POWER SERVICES

Northern Marianas College is soliciting competitive sealed bids for the procurement of Maintenance Manpower Services for the As Terlaje Campus, Saipan.

Specifications and Scope of Work packages may be picked up at the **NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, commencing Monday, Aug 28th, 2017 between the hours of 8: 30-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m.**

Bid Packages are due no later than 10:00 a.m., September 29, 2017, at Northern Marianas College, As Terlaje Campus, Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, Saipan, MP 96950. In accordance with Public Laws 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, Local Preference is available to local businesses for this procurement.

For Bidders located outside of the CNMI: you may request a copy of the IFB via fax (670) 235-7601 or email to Anita Camacho (anita.camacho@marianas.edu).

This solicitation does not constitute an offer and does not obligate the College in any way. The NMC reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids for any reason and waive any defect in said bids, or cancel in part or its entirety this IFB, if it deems, in its sole discretion, it is in the best interest of the College.

All costs incurred by the proposer to prepare a response to this solicitation and subsequent inquiries shall be borne by the proposer. All submittals shall become the property of NMC.

Approved by:

/s/Anita Camacho
NMC Procurement & Property Management Office

Northern Marianas College
Procurement & Property Management Office
P.O. Box 501250 CK, Saipan, MP 96950 U.S.A.
Tel: (670) 234-5498 ext. 6824/23/22 • Fax: (670) 235-7601
E-mail: ppmo@marianas.edu

INVITATION FOR BIDS

NMC IFB 17-012
BUILDING D2 RENOVATION PROJECT

Northern Marianas College (NMC), is soliciting competitive sealed bids for Roof Renovation for building D2, at As Terlaje Campus, Saipan.

Specifications and Scope of Work packages may be picked up at the **NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, commencing Monday, August 28, 2017, between the hours of 8: 30-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m.**

A mandatory pre-bid conference and site inspection for interested persons, firms and corporation will be held on Tuesday, September 08, 2017 at 10:00am at NMC Procurement & Property Management Office, Conference Room on the 2nd floor, Bldg L.

Bid Packages are due no later than 10:00 a.m., September 15, 2017 at Northern Marianas College, As Terlaje Campus, Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, Saipan, MP 96950. In accordance with Public Laws 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, Local Preference is not available to local businesses for this procurement.

For Bidders located outside of the CNMI: you may request a copy of the IFB via fax (670) 235-7601 or email to Anita Camacho (anita.camacho@marianas.edu).

This solicitation does not constitute an offer and does not obligate the College in any way. The NMC reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids for any reason and waive any defect in said bids, or cancel in part or its entirety this IFB, if it deems, in its sole discretion, it is in the best interest of the College.

All costs incurred by the proposer to prepare a response to this solicitation and subsequent inquiries shall be borne by the proposer. All submittals shall become the property of NMC.

Approved by:
/s/Anita Camacho
Procurement & Property Management Office

Northern Marianas College
Procurement & Property Management Office
P.O. Box 501250 CK, Saipan, MP 96950 U.S.A.
Tel: (670) 237-6824 ext. 23/22 Fax: (670) 235-7601
E-mail: ppmo@marianas.edu

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS SERVICES
NMC RFP 17-005

Northern Marianas College is soliciting competitive sealed proposal from qualified firms as an "Independent Auditor" to perform a financial and compliance audit for the College.

Specifications and Scope of Work packages may be picked up at the **NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, commencing Monday, August 14, 2017, between the hours of 9:30-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m.**

Proposal Packages are due no later than 10:00 a.m., September 15, 2017, at Northern Marianas College, As Terlaje Campus, Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, Saipan, MP 96950.

For Proposers located outside of the CNMI: you may request a copy of the RFP via fax (670) 235-7601 or email to Anita Camacho (anita.camacho@marianas.edu).

Discussion may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers.

NMC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reasons and/or to waive any defects in any proposals if, in its sole discretion, to do so will be in the best interest of the College. All proposals shall become the property of NMC.

/s/ Anita Camacho
NMC Procurement Manager

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Live-fire range planned on 'pristine' Guam land

HAGNATA, Guam (AP)—A U.S. military live-fire training range is being built in Guam to support the relocation of Marines.

Black Construction Corp. was awarded a $78 million contract on Friday, the *Pacific Daily News* reported.

"We are committed to Guam, and our forward presence here will play an essential role in strengthening the military's ability to maintain regional security and protect the nation's interests in the Pacific," said Col. Brent Bien, who is the officer in charge of the Marine Corps Activity Guam.

The complex will be built in Andersen Air Force Base on a patch of land that the community has said is one of the last pristine places in Guam.

It will be near a wildlife refuge and will require part of the refuge to be closed when the range is in use.

Sabina Perez, spokeswoman of a group against the complex, said the military seems to be rushing to get its projects started.

"Our group has been contacting our local leaders to tell them to prevent this toxic legacy from happening," Perez said.

The group, called Prutehi Litekyan, has garnered the support of Speaker Benjamin Cruz, D-Tumon, Vice Speaker Therese Terlaje, D-Yona, and Sen. Fernando Esteves, R-Yona.

"No amount of money can compensate for the permanent destruction, loss of access and other adverse impacts to Guam's historic sites, 187 acres of limestone forests, endangered species and fishing areas that are part of this particular live-fire training range project," Terlaje said. "The Department of Defense has not kept its promises to avoid these adverse impacts to Guam and in fact continues to expand its control over lands and waters of Guam and the Marianas."

Terlaje is calling on Gov. Eddie Calvo to make time to meet with federal authorities to find ways to prevent the potential impacts of the firing range complex.

The group also is working on scheduling a face-to-face meeting with military officials, Perez said.

Work is expected to be completed by November 2020, but a groundbreaking date has not been scheduled.

Judge denies request for records on H-2B visa rejections

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)—A judge has denied a request for documents that would provide insight on why nearly all requests for use of temporary foreign labor on Guam under the H-2B visa program have been rejected by the federal government.

The Guam Contractors Association and 11 other businesses filed a lawsuit to challenge the visa rejections last October, the *Pacific Daily News* reported. The rejections has caused them to lose their skilled workers under the H-2B visa program and delayed ongoing construction projects and military buildup contracts, a majority of the plaintiffs said. They don't believe the local labor pool is large enough to fill in the job positions.

U.S. District Court Magistrate Judge Joaquin Manibusan denied the plaintiffs' request for internal memos, training manuals and other documents besides administrative records during Thursday's status hearing in the case.

In his Aug. 11 report and recommendation, Manibusan wrote that the businesses would likely be threatened without an injunction requiring the federal government to approve visas, but said they don't deserve the injunction because they have not done enough to win the case.

The plaintiffs had until Friday to file written objections on the judge's report and recommendations.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd floor-Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

The Department of Public works would like to inform the general public particularly business owners operating hotels, industrial building, commercial buildings, apartment buildings, office spaces, multiple-family residential buildings and other structures used for business shall possess valid certificate of occupancy issued by the Building Safety Code Division of the department.

CNMI Public Law 6-45, Subchapter 155-0.1 of the Building Safety Code Rules and Regulations specifies the following:

§ 155-10.1-301 Certificate of Occupancy:

No building or structure hereafter erected shall be occupied or used, in whole or in part, until a certificate of occupancy has been issued by the building safety official and posted on the premises certifying that such building conforms to the provisions of the Safety Code and the regulations in this subchapter. The certificate of occupancy shall remain posted indefinitely in a conspicuous place. A certificate of occupancy for a business shall be issued with a term of one year only; the business must renew the certificate each year.

It is the responsibility of the operator, business owner or owners to apply or to renew certificate of occupancy. Effective August 20, 2017, Building Inspectors from the Building Safety Code Division will perform routine inspections and verify if certificate of occupancies is posted on the conspicuous place of the establishments.

For more information, please visit:

Building Safety Code Division
2nd Floor Oleai Joeten Commercial Center
Oleai, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: (670) 234-2726/2296

/S/ CASIANO M. BOSTRE, P.E.
Building Safety Official

/S/ JAMES A. ADA
Secretary of Public Works

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-17-027

ROOF REPLACEMENT AT DRUM STORAGE AREA POWER PLANT NO. 1 SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the replacement of roofing material at the Drum Storage Berm, Power Plant 1, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project consists, in general of the removal of corroded roofing and its replacement with new material. Electrical work for installation of lighting and power outlets at the berm is also requested for this task.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **90 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **September 12, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-17-027 Roof Replacement Drum Storage Area Power Plant No. 1 Saipan",** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 29, 2017**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to conduct business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 14, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant-via email marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org and Max Simian, CUC Technical Manager for Oil – via email max.simian@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, JR.
Purchasing Administrator

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-17-018

Supply and Delivery of Water and Wastewater Annual Materials

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified vendors for the Supply and Delivery of Water & Wastewater Division Annual Materials for Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

CUC may award a contract to more than one firm for the materials based on bids for "Commodity Groups".

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked ***"CUC-IFB-17-018, Supply & Delivery of Water & Wastewater Division Annual Materials",*** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 06, 2017** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and

Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

All responses to this IFB shall take into account any and all taxes which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract.

The IFB does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the bid under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Prospective Bidders must comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered Prospective Bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on August 22, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Administrator- via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Geoffrey Ada, CUC Water-Wastewater, Inventory Technician – via email address geoffrey.ada@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant-via email address marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, JR.
Purchasing Administrator

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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EDITORIAL

Trump pardoning Arpaio is civic arson

President Donald Trump put a blot on his reputation that may never fade with the appalling impromptu news conference last week in which he declared a lot of "very fine people" participated in a white supremacist, anti-Semitic protest replete with Nazi imagery in Charlottesville, Va., on Aug. 12.

But now Trump may build on his image as a president who stokes racial and ethnic tensions by pardoning Joe Arpaio, the former sheriff in Maricopa County, Arizona, which includes Phoenix and has 4.2 million people—about 60 percent of the state's population. In July, Arpaio was convicted of criminal contempt of court for defying a federal judge's 2011 order that his Sheriff's Department end its unconstitutional policy of targeting Latinos—without probable cause—with warrantless traffic stops and detention.

Arpaio's hardline tactics in fighting illegal immigration—and, arguably, his eager promotion of Obama birtherism—made him a tea party and Fox News favorite. Some on the right may not mind a sheriff who engaged in unconstitutional racial profiling; who is proud that temperatures routinely top 120 degrees every summer in his tent jail; who goes after humans being smuggled instead of their smugglers and who arrests unauthorized immigrants at factories and farms but not their employers.

But those who are able to rationalize this away and who actually care about democratic norms should be appalled with the grotesque ways Arpaio used his power to bully and abuse his critics. Two county supervisors won nearly $4.5 million dollars in settlements over bogus charges orchestrated by Arpaio's aides and allies. The Phoenix New Times CEO and top editor won a $3.75 million settlement after being arrested on bogus charges that followed critical coverage of the sheriff.

Last November, Maricopa County voters had had enough. After 24 years, Arpaio was easily defeated in his bid for a seventh term by political unknown Paul Penzone, a retired Phoenix police sergeant.

The Trump administration wastes a ridiculous amount of time putting out fires caused by a president who likes to say what's on his mind and then reflexively defend his remarks and trash his critics. This leads to a political cycle in which Trump defenders often say journalists have chosen to look at Trump's comments in the worst possible light, making pugnacity seem a manifestation of evil.

But pardons of people found guilty of federal crimes are in a different category than ill-chosen remarks. Arpaio is not a valiant retired law-enforcement officer who may have made a few mistakes but deserves a break. He was a tyrant with a badge who abused his power to torment his critics—and a lawman who targeted an entire ethnic group despite an explicit order from a federal judge to stop doing so because it was unconstitutional. If the president uses his power to free such a criminal from the consequences of his actions, it will be an act of civic arson—one that's even worse than his remarks about the Charlottesville tragedy.

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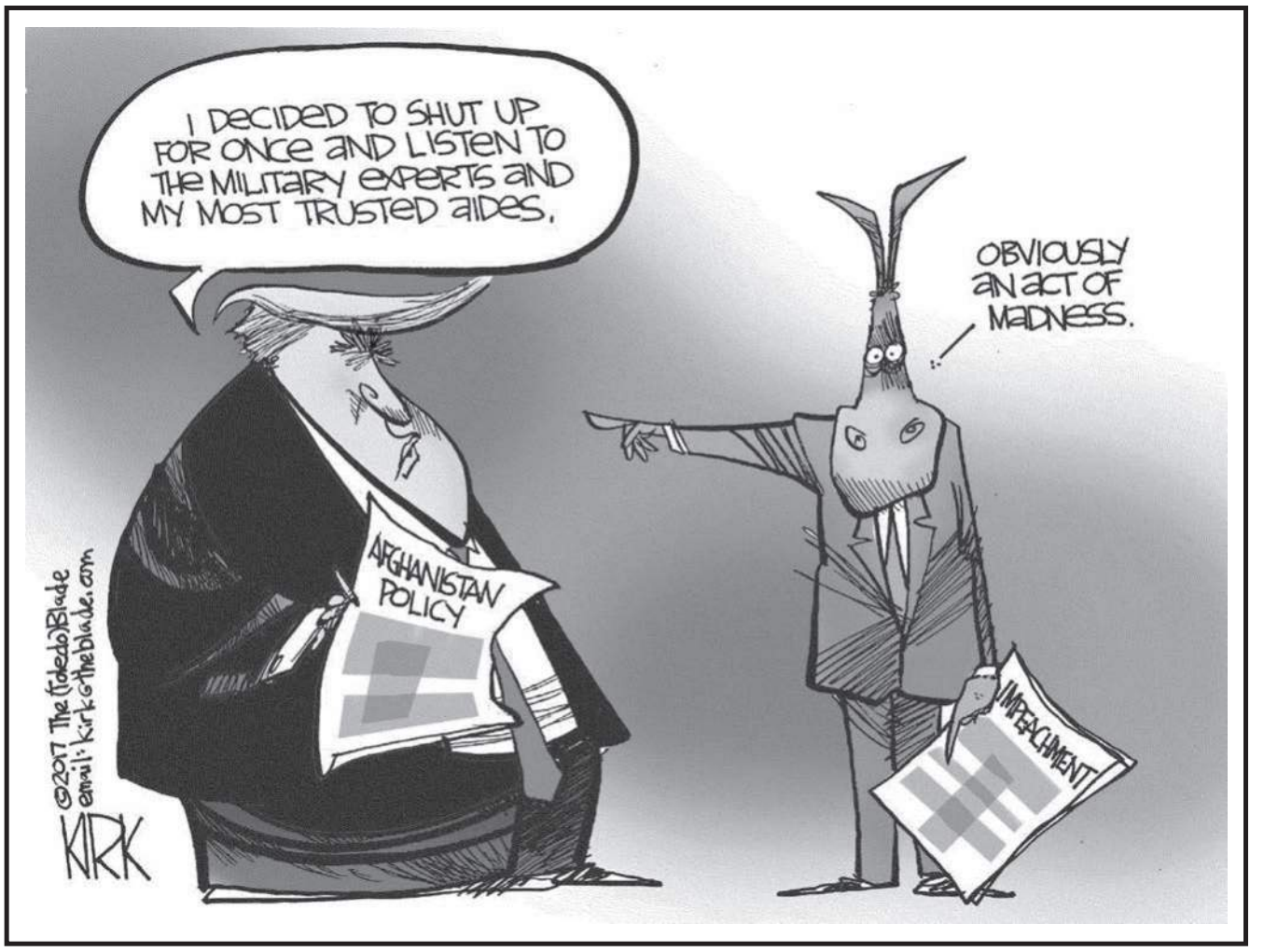
I DECIDED TO SHUT UP FOR ONCE AND LISTEN TO THE MILITARY EXPERTS AND MY MOST TRUSTED AIDES.
OBVIOUSLY AN ACT OF MADNESS.
AFGHANISTAN POLICY
IMPEACHMENT
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KIRK

'Your comments are being moderated'

By JAYVEE VALLEJERA
Managing Editor

Jayvee Vallejera is the managing editor of Saipan Tribune.

All comments on the *Saipan Tribune* website are moderated. It says so, right there at the end of every story. Just a little below the section where commenters type in their comments. It has the heading "Disclaimer" and says *"Comments are moderated. They will not appear immediately or even on the same day. Comments should be related to the topic. Off-topic comments would be deleted. Profanities are not allowed. Comments that are potentially libelous, inflammatory, or slanderous would be deleted."*

I just feel the need to point it out since many are so used to the comments section of Facebook that they expect the same parameters to apply. I am sorry to say that that is not so. On Facebook, comments appear as fast as your brain could process thought and type them into the comment section. *Saipan Tribune*'s comment section is slower and more deliberate, giving commenters that extra time to pause and rethink their profanities.

Also, as a small outfit, the *Saipan Tribune* does not have the luxury of robot engineers that perform algorithms and word evaluations to do its work for it. There is actually a person who checks whether a comment would be approved or not, whether a comment conforms with the *Saipan Tribune* policy or not.

And that means that, with an actual human behind a computer and weighing your every word, that person also has days off, breaks, and vacation time. Which means comments may or may not appear immediately. If the moderator is asleep, a commenter will have to wait for the moderator to wake up and see the pending comments before he or she can approve, edit, reply, delete or classify the comment as spam (which also means all comments from that commenter will not appear and are immediately categorized as spam).

The *Saipan Tribune* policy also requires comments to be related to the topic. The disclaimer informs commenters beforehand that *off-topic comments would be deleted.* Most comments are on point, so this part of the disclaimer is, shall we say, legalese that is somewhat akin to the warning "Be careful. Barbed wire is sharp."

It is the latter part of the disclaimer that poses a perplexing dilemma to moderators. Many commenters are usually aware of the rule against profanities and try to go around the prohibition against the F words, the SH__, and MFs. It's when commenters generalize that many stray into gray areas. Like saying that all (nationality) are filth. That family names like so-and-so are thieves. That whatshisface is a corrupt person.

Government and politicians are usually fair game for criticism and accusing the government of corruption is so pro forma that it no longer shocks or scandalizes anyone. It is easy to say the government or politicians are corrupt but when you accuse one specific person of corruption, doing it in the comment section is the least helpful way of doing it. It is an invitation for the *Tribune* to be sued and would therefore be deleted. You'd be better off filing a complaint with the Office of the Public Auditor. Go to the police. File a case. Better that than a libel case against the *Tribune*.

This is not intended to discourage people from commenting on our stories. We welcome all comments and criticisms, deserved or otherwise. But know the limits of what will fly. When you tell me that I am an egotistical blowhard, that's fine. Comments like that usually do not trigger a red flag. Complaints about inaccuracies or bias in our stories are always welcome and we always try our best to correct our ways.

But when you allege something that has not been proven in court, that someone is a rapist or has a predilection for criminal activity, you are so in the middle of the territory of libel and slander that the fine line between acceptable and unacceptable comments is already far behind you. You are not merely flirting with the line; you are having a romantic relationship with criminal speech. Also, when you say that all Asian nationals (nudge-nudge, wink-wink) are filth, that is racism, not legitimate criticism. Or when you say that all citizens of one Southeast Asian country are mal-educated job-grabbers, remember that there are people who will be reading your inflammatory comment, evaluating it whether it is legitimate or not, and eventually approving it or deleting it altogether. And remember, those moderators could be citizens of a Southeast Asian country that are, in your words, mal-educated job-grabbers. So when you say they should all be blamed for your not having a job, are thieves to a man, and must all be deported, all it takes is a click of the mouse to approve or disapprove your comments. As has been pointed out by our legal eagles, your right to free speech ends where the *Tribune* being sued for slander begins.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

'Greatest generation' is fading, but it's still got choice words for our own

By DANNY WESTNEAT
The Seattle Times

Danny Westneat's is a columnist for the Seattle Times. *Reach him at 206-464-2086 or dwestneat@seattletimes.com.*

Remember the greatest generation? The ones that beat back the Nazis?

Recently I sat down with two of them, to talk about everyday persistence, about stability, about things that abide.

But we weren't five minutes in when it veered in the exact opposite direction—to the rise of neo-Nazis in the news today, the demagoguery of a certain president and to an eerily familiar chill.

"I remember back in the '30s and '40s, it was like people were hypnotized," says Wilma Matz, 93. "I worry all the time it might be happening again."

Numerically speaking, Wilma and Harold Matz are rarer around here than the endangered northern spotted owl.

At 95, Harold is a World War II vet, a medical technician who pulled the maimed off the line of the war's bloodiest fight, the Battle of the Bulge.

All but 3 percent of his 16 million mates who beat back fascism are gone. The greatest generation has dwindled to just 0.2 percent of the American population.

Even rarer, Wilma was a Rosie the Riveter. She drove fasteners into the wings of B-29 bombers for Boeing in the 1940s, one of 300,000 bandana-wearing women who came out of housewifery to take over the nation's airplane-factory work. Only about 10,000 Rosies are still alive today.

Then there's this: As of Wednesday, the couple has been married 75 years. Fewer than 0.1 percent of all marriages in America are so enduring.

"It's like they hit the trifecta," says their daughter, Laura Matz.

When I caught up with them in their Normandy Park apartment, though, they couldn't help contrasting their own stability with the turbulent state of the news today.

Harold was telling how they had to hand-haul thousands of wounded Allied soldiers out of the Battle of the Bulge on the border of Belgium and Germany, when he interrupted himself.

"This president today, if he'd been the president back then, we would have lost the war in the first three months," he said.

Ouch. Why?

"No steadiness, no resolve," he said.

Wilma said she's been appalled that any American leader would wink and nod at neo-Nazis, considering the lengths her generation went to fight it.

"I don't know if he really means it—he seems to say whatever pops into his head—but this country sacrificed a great deal back then," she said. "It feels like that's been forgotten. It's hard to describe what it was like. It was all hands on deck."

When Harold was shipped to Europe in the fall of 1943, she, just 19, immediately signed up to help build bomber parts at a temporary Boeing war factory in Chehalis. At the peak of production, more than 70 percent of the workers there were women. It was her first job.

"I often maintain she did more to beat the Nazis than I did," laughed Harold, who went on to become a chiropractor in Des Moines after the war.

Recently Tim Egan of the New York Times called these last living fascism fighters, quiet people like Harold and Wilma living out their years in senior homes, our "real American heritage." As opposed to the statues and symbols people are fighting over today.

His point is that the monument fight is for phony patriots. We have among us a few "living memorials" to the best American story. The one where we were unambiguously on the right side of history.

It turns out it was about living old values. Such as persistence.

Speaking of which: What's the secret to staying married for an incredible 75 years?

"I like to have someone to sleep next to," Harold shrugs.

Wilma just rolls her eyes, and smiles. When you've beaten the Great Depression and the Nazis and made it three-quarters of a century together, no way a bad joke is going to get between you and the finish line.

The Afghanistan war will outlast Trump

By ANDREW J. BACEVICH
Los Angeles Times

Andrew J. Bacevich is the author of America's War for the Greater Middle East: A Military History.

Nearly 16 years after U.S. forces first entered Afghanistan, there they remain. Success, narrowly defined as creating Afghan institutions capable of preventing that nation from once more becoming a haven for terrorists, has proved elusive. Among those noting that absence of success was President Trump himself. Prior to becoming president, he denounced the war as a "terrible mistake," a "total disaster," and a "complete waste." In 2013, he tweeted that "We should leave Afghanistan immediately."

Now in the most important foreign policy decision of his presidency so far, he has chosen to perpetuate and to expand the war. Acknowledging that Americans are "weary of war without victory," Trump promised to press on. "In the end," he insisted, "we will win." His commitment to that goal is unambiguous, even if his strategy for achieving it is devoid of specifics. Yet from this point forward, blaming President Obama for whatever happens in Kabul or Kandahar or the Hindu Kush won't work. Afghanistan is Trump's war now.

Furthermore, given the president's pronounced aversion to admitting error, his embrace of the Afghanistan conflict is almost certainly irreversible. Apparently, he will support a request from his field commander to send a few thousand additional U.S. troops into battle. Yet barring the prospect that a handful of reinforcements will suddenly turn the tide and "win"—an outcome that at this point only the naive or the gullible will expect—America's war in Afghanistan is almost certain to continue for the duration of Trump's presidency. He will bequeath to his successor a conflict that is already the longest in U.S. history.

Trump's supporters will likely applaud his move. So too will the foreign policy establishment he once ridiculed. The establishment's success in turning Trump around on Afghanistan has implications that go far beyond that particular country.

At least implicitly, Trump is now endorsing the twin assumptions that since 9/11 have formed the basis for the larger war on terrorism: First, that sustained U.S. military action provides the most effective means of defeating terrorism; second, that the physical presence of U.S. forces in vulnerable Muslim-majority countries provides a means to render them inhospitable to terrorist entities.

In short, if we keep killing bad guys and persist in nation-building (an effort Trump derides at the same time he implicitly endorses it), the problem will eventually solve itself.

Little evidence exists to support those propositions. Indeed, the post-9/11 U.S. military experience not only in Afghanistan but also in Iraq and elsewhere points to precisely the opposite conclusion: The principal effect of the ongoing war on terrorism has been to exacerbate the problem that it purports to solve. The entire enterprise has been what Trump once understood it to be: a terrible mistake, a total disaster and a complete waste. Now, in effect, he has recanted.

A decision to stay the course in Afghanistan tells us nothing about what Trump may do next week or next month with regard to China, North Korea or Russia, not to mention truly momentous matters such as the threat posed by climate change. He remains utterly unpredictable. Yet his decision on Afghanistan does tell us one thing: Trump has abandoned what once ostensibly formed the foundation of his presidency—a commitment to "America first."

Whoever or whatever benefits by prolonging the war in Afghanistan, it certainly won't be the United States.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

What is the CNMI Cannabis Act of 2018?

Editor's Note: The first part of this letter was published last Aug. 25, 2017. It is being published in two parts due to its length.

Last of a two-part series

A hemp industry will also be created to produce hemp-based products. Hemp is non-psychoactive (does not make a person "high") and able to produce about 50,000 products. Fortunately, local farmers will have a rotational crop added to their plots during seasons. From seed oil to cooking flour, these healthy hemp food products can make their way to local grocery stores as well as the public school and senior citizens lunch programs. Later, the hemp industry may expand by producing industrial hemp-based products like fiberboards (plywood/lumber), paper, textiles and bio-fuel for domestic use to offset imported fuel dependency, and possibly, to some extent, some for export.

Let's not forget the CBD (cannabidiol) varieties for medical applications to treat cancer, epilepsy, diabetes, stroke, Parkinson's disease, PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder), inflammations and pain, etc.

Since hemp is non-psychoactive and classified as having 0.3 percent THC or less, there are many advantages in not just producing these varieties but in the regulations as well since cultivars with 0.3 percent will not be considered marijuana, but instead, high CBD non-psychoactive cannabis.

The hemp industry alone is a massive opportunity in its own way. Here is a concept: What if hemp can be grown to offset residential power bills? A subsidy program where residents grow hemp and the value of the harvested crop be given as a voucher to be used when paying their utilities. For example: power bill = $300 and voucher value = $150. You pay only $150. Imagine how *tangan tangan* trees can be replaced with a valuable hemp field.

There are opportunities, advantages and benefits of cannabis that we can harness and the CNMI Cannabis Act will allow us the opportunities to explore and benefit from its full potential. This is not just a medical, recreational, spiritual or agricultural and industrial issue. In fact, the true essence of cannabis legalization has always been a civil liberty issue. It is for the right of an individual to have the freedom of choice to cultivate and consume accessible cannabis for whatever the reason may be, and without the fear of arrest and punishment. Everything else is a secondary merit of its purpose.

Sensible CNMI reached out to Sen. Sixto since the filing of the medical marijuana bill in 2015 leading up to this day, and we will continue to collaborate and assist him and our leaders in accepting cannabis as an option so that we may get this question on the ballot.

It has been a wild ride but we remain positively focused and committed with heart and passion to always go forward and never backwards. We look forward to sharing knowledge in educating and informing the CNMI people regarding the benefits of cannabis and the intentions of the CNMI Cannabis Act of 2018, so that we may be better equipped in deciding for ourselves whether legalization of cannabis is a viable industry worth pursuing. Have a safe and blessed weekend CNMI. Unity in the community. Peace.

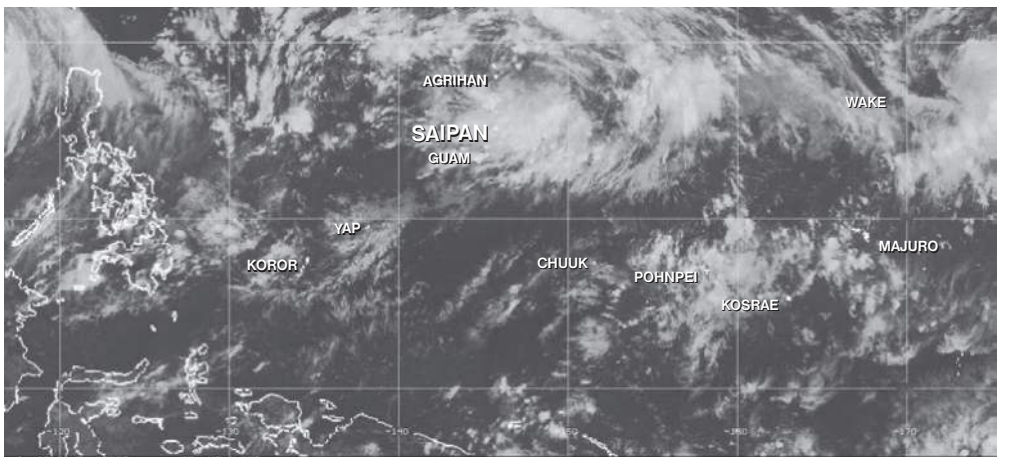
Gerry 'Banzai' Palacios Hemley
Sensible CNMI/cannabis advocate

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Partly sunny with isolated showers and thunderstorms. southwest winds 15 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms. Southwest winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲89° ▼78°	▲89° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 9:43 AM, SUNDAY, AUGUST 27, 2017
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Did make a few changes to the forecast. Satellite and radar imagery this morning show hardly any showers over the local area. Models do show this dryness and also hint that it will only last through the morning. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms will return this afternoon. Updated wind speeds also as local observations show winds increasing a little faster than what the models predicted. Models were showing winds around 10 mph today. VAD winds at 2kft were around 10 to 12 mph before midnight but increased up to 15 to 20 mph by sunrise. A few surface observations also show the increase in winds. Still expect winds of 10 to 15 mph today, but there could be wind gust in any showers because of the higher winds at 2 kft. Models still agree on the general details in that the circulation now over the northern Marianas will move northward and is predicted to be north of 20N by Tuesday. The local area will remain in a southwest wind flow south of the circulation through the week. Winds will increase further Monday with wind speeds at 15 to 20 mph. These higher winds will persist through Tuesday before decreasing. Models hint that there could be some wind gust to 25 mph.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	87° / 78°
Palau	Thunderstorms	84° / 77°
Yap	Mostly Sunny	86° / 79°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	88° / 80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	88° / 77°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	88° / 77°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	86° / 81°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	61° / 50°
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	75° / 55°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	88° / 81°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	87° / 76°
London	Sunny	96° / 75°
Los Angeles	Sunny	83° / 68°
Manila	Thunderstorms	90° / 79°
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	59° / 43°
Miami	Thunderstorms	87° / 80°
New York	Mostly Sunny	76° / 62°
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	91° / 79°
Paris	Partly Cloudy	82° / 63°
Busan	Showers	84° / 73°
Rome	Sunny	97° / 72°
Salem	Mostly Cloudy	84° / 68°
San Francisco	Sunny	71° / 55°
Seoul	Showers	77° / 63°
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	86° / 77°
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	78° / 65°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
6:31 AM	LOW TIDE	0.41
12:38 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.49
6:27 PM	LOW TIDE	0.88
-	-	-

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:04 AM	6:32 PM
Tuesday	6:04 AM	6:31 PM
Wednesday	6:04 AM	6:30 PM
Thursday	6:04 AM	6:30 PM
Friday	6:04 AM	6:29 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	11:24 AM	11:15 PM	-
Tuesday	12:13 AM	11:58 PM	-
Wednesday	1:02 PM	-	-
Thursday	-	12:43 AM	1:15 PM
Friday	-	1:29 AM	2:40 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 21, 2017

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	1:35am	5:20am	2, 3, 4
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
TW308	2:35am	6:20am	6, 7
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
LJ652	4:45am	8:35am	1, 4, 5, 7
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily
ZE582	4:45pm	8:35pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	5:20am	8:00am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:00am	10:25am	1
JD396	4:50pm	8:15pm	4

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:15pm	7:00pm	Daily

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:00am	1, 2, 4, 6via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	3, 5, 7 via GUM
PR1572	4:40am	6:45am	1, 4
UA6391/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	10:40pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA6390/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA6390/193	2:20pm	10:40pm	2 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	4:40am	8:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
UA6391/159	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
ZE583	10:05am	3:35pm	2, 4, 6, 7
ZE581	10:10am	3:55pm	Daily
TW307	7:05pm	12:35am+1	1, 2, 3
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
TW307	8:05pm	1:35am+1	5, 6
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
LJ651	10:00pm	3:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:10am	3:30pm	4
JD395	10:05pm	5:30am+1	7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:20am	2:50pm	Daily

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR1571	9:20pm	3:40am+1	3, 7
UA192/6395	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
PR110/UA6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA184/6395	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UO424:50pm	12:05am+1		2, 6
HX076	5:20pm	12:30am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:05pm	1:10am+1	1
UO42	6:10pm	1:00am+1	3
UO42	6:10pm	1:10am+1	4
UO42	6:40pm	2:00am+1	7
UA116/6395	10:45pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, ZE Eastar Jet, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

Zinke sends monument report to White House

WASHINGTON—U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke sent Friday a draft report to the president, which included his findings and recommendations on national monuments that were under review as a result of the April 26, 2017, executive order.

The extensive 120-day review included more than 60 meetings with hundreds of advocates and opponents of monument designations, tours of monuments conducted over air, foot, car, and horseback (including a virtual tour of a marine monument), and a thorough review of more than 2.4 million public comments submitted to the department on regulations.gov.

Additionally, countless more meetings and conversations between senior Interior officials and local, state, tribal, and non-government stakeholders including multiple tribal listening sessions.

The review was initiated by Trump in order to restore trust in the multiple-use mission of the department and to give rural communities a voice in federal land management decisions. In order to make the process transparent and give local residents and stakeholders a voice, Zinke announced on May 5, 2017 the opening up of a formal comment period for the review, as the President directed.

This was the first time ever that a formal comment period was open on regulations.gov for national monuments designated under the Antiquities Act.

"No President should use the authority under the Antiquities Act to restrict public access, prevent hunting and fishing, burden private land, or eliminate traditional land uses, unless such action is needed to protect the object," said Zinke**.**"The recommendations I sent to the president on national monuments will maintain federal ownership of all federal land and protect the land under federal environmental regulations, and also provide a much needed change for the local communities who border and rely on these lands for hunting and fishing, economic development, traditional uses, and recreation."

While traveling across the country, Zinke met with hundreds of local stakeholders and heard concerns about some national monuments negatively impacting things like local revenue from federal lands, agriculture, private property rights, public access to land, traditional tribal uses of the land, and timber harvesting.

Over the 120-day review, Zinke visited eight national monument sites in six states: Bears Ears (UT), Grand Staircase Escalante (UT); Katahdin Woods and Waters (ME); Northeast Canyons and Seamounts; Cascade Siskiyou (OR and CA); Organ Mountain Desert-Peaks (NM); Basin and Range (NV); and Gold Butte (NV).

The following national monuments were announced to have been removed from review prior to the August 24 deadline: Craters of the Moon, Hanford Reach, Upper Missouri River Breaks, Grand Canyon-Parashant, Canyons of the Ancients, and Sand to Snow. ***(PR)***

Zinke praised for monuments recommendations

*The Washington Pos*t: [U.S. Interior Secretary Ryan] Zinke's monument review is praised by New England and Hawaii commercial fishing groups, along with New Mexico ranchers.

"Fishing groups said they were encouraged by Zinke stating that his recommendations would 'provide a much needed change for the local communities who border and rely on these lands for hunting and fishing.'"

"Hispanic ranchers from New Mexico who met with [Zinke] while he gathered information about national monuments say they're encouraged that the changes could help them get more grazing and water rights." (editorial: "The Latest: REI pledges to oppose US monument changes," *The Washington Post*, 8-24-17)

Roll Call: House Natural Resources Chairman Rob Bishop "called for Congress to overhaul the Antiquities Act to place 'reasonable limits' on the way presidents use the statute." "...the Obama administration had abused the statute that allows presidents to designate national monuments without congressional action. The Interior review, he said, was necessary because some of the designations were a result of abuse of the statute and did not allow for adequate input by local communities." (editorial: "Monuments Review Spurs Call to Overhaul Antiquities Act," *Roll Call*, 8-24-17)

Waco Tribune-Herald: The *Waco Tribune-Herald* praises "Zinke's reported decision to preserve those national monuments whose designations suddenly appeared in doubt." "One reason this newspaper cheered Zinke's addition to the President's Cabinet this year was because of his staunchly conservative credentials as a Republican congressman, yet his resistance to those on the far right who want the government to sell off or give away federal lands, including, yes, parks and monuments. Whatever else, Zinke has indicated he understands President Teddy Roosevelt's insight in first employing the National Antiquities Act of 1906 in preserving public lands." (editorial: "Praise for Interior Secretary Zinke's recommendation preserving our national monuments," *Waco Tribune-Herald*, 8-24-17)

Las Cruces Sun-News: Secretary Zinke came to New Mexico with legitimate reasons and left with information he needs to make a recommendation, not a popular vote for or against the monument. "He visited with the governor, local government, tribal representatives, veterans, Friends of the Organ Mountains, officials concerned with flood control, watershed management, rights of way, border security, public safety officials and ranchers. In my estimation, he visited with a broad spectrum of local citizens to hear their concerns, and not whether people were for or against the monument." (editorial: "Zinke monument review has been fair," *Las Cruces Sun-News*, 8-24-17)

Americans for Tax Reform: Americans for Tax Reform's president Grover Norquist applauds Zinke's "efforts to highlight some of the most prevalent issues facing national monument designations under the Antiquities Act." "For too long the Antiquities Act has allowed for the unbridled abuse of executive power, far beyond what lawmakers intended when the Act was first passed. The Antiquities Act has permitted past Presidents to designate vast swaths of public land as national monuments unilaterally, often with little to no input from affected stakeholders." (editorial: "ATR applauds Secretary Zinke's Efforts to Improve Antiquities Act Designations," Americans for Tax Reform, 8-24-17)

Americans for Prosperity: Americans for Prosperity praises Secretary Zinke for sending "President Trump a series of recommendations designed to give additional flexibility to local communities impacted by overly broad management of federal lands under the Antiquities Act." "We're pleased that Secretary Zinke has undertaken a review of these large sites from the past two decades to ensure the government is not needlessly encroaching on local economic use, tribal activities, recreation, or simple public access." (editorial: "AFP Thanks Interior Secretary for Recommendations to Rein in Antiquities Act Abuses," Americans for Prosperity, 8-24-17)

Washington Times: The *Washington Times* praises Zinke, saying "Interior's Ryan Zinke thankfully suggests shrinking national monuments." "Americans find themselves facing the slow erosion of private property rights, while would-be miners suffer the very real plight of losing jobs, losing money, losing the freedom to tap resources as they see fit. It's high time reason be restored to the oft-burdensome, oft-restrictive government bureaucracies in charge of all the U.S. land management and control, agencies that include the National Parks Service, Bureau of Land Management and Environmental Protection Agency," (editorial: Interior's Ryan Zinke thankfully suggests shrinking national monuments," *Washington Times*, 8-25-17)

Bangor Daily News: Various members of Congress praise Zinke for his monument recommendation. "I am confident that the decision that [Zinke] announces will reflect his in-depth consultation with a wide variety of stakeholders and people in the region," Sen. Susan Collins said. U.S. Rep. Chellie Pingree said she liked Zinke's "deliberative study of the monument, his recommendation to protect it." Rep. Rob Bishop, a Utah Republican, said the president should take all the time he needs to study the report before releasing it,"(editorial: Interior Secretary Zinke recommends keeping Maine's national monument, *Bangor Daily News*, 8-25-17). ***(DOI)***

WCC chief to speak at SHRM meeting

Francisco Diaz Cabrera, director of the CNMI Office of the Workers' Compensation Commission, will be the main speaker at the Aug. 31, 2017, meeting of the Society for Human Resource Management NMI Chapter.

He will discuss the CNMI's Workers' Compensation Program for SHRM members. Cabrera has been with the program since 1998 and has been its director since 2006. He is responsible for the daily operations and activities of the WCC branch offices on the islands of Saipan, Tinian and Rota.

Cabrera has also been designated as the project director for the Department of Commerce's "one-stop" processing center, which includes the licensing offices of Alcohol and Tobacco, Weights & Measure, Taxicabs, Banking, and Insurance, the Registrar of Corporations, and WCC.

As director of WCC, Cabrera conducts mediation meetings and status conferences for disputes arising between employees, employers, and insurance companies to arrive at the final determination of a claim. He will discuss this mediation process, the areas of employee and employer compliance with the requirements of the WCC program, as well as explaining what the program is and how it works.

This lunch meeting will be held at the Pacific Islands Club Charley's Cabaret on Thursday, Aug. 31, 2017, from 11:30am to 1:30pm.

The presentation is open to the public and will be an invaluable opportunity for employers, managers, and HR professionals and staff to learn more about WCC. Cabrera will provide an opportunity for questions.

The presentation includes the PIC lunch buffet at the cost of $20 for SHRM members and $30 for non-members. Seats are limited, so reserve your seat by contacting Penny Jones by e-mail at penelope.jones@hyatt.com or Denise Montenegro at denise.montenegro@hyatt.com or by telephone at 323-5867/68.

SHRM is the world's largest association devoted to human resource management. For more information about the NMI chapter, visit nmichapter.shrm.org. ***(SHRM)***

TINIAN-PSS MEETING

Public School System management officials led by Education Commissioner Cynthia I. Deleon Guerrero, third from left, meet with the Tinian Mayor's Office management team last Tuesday to discuss current and upcoming projects for Tinian public schools.

PSS

Business

Hurricane Harvey closes key oil, gas operations in Texas

AP
Vehicles and RVs pass parked oil platforms as they are ferried away from Port Aransas, Texas, after a mandatory evacuation was ordered in preparation for Hurricane Harvey, Thursday, Aug. 24, 2017.

DALLAS (AP)—Key oil and gas facilities along the Texas Gulf Coast have temporarily shut down as Harvey pounds the region with torrential rain and high winds, virtually assuring gasoline prices will rise in the storm's aftermath.

Even before the Harvey made landfall late Friday, dozens of oil and gas platforms had been evacuated, at least three refineries had closed and at least two petrochemical plants had suspended operations.

How soon they reopen depends on the severity of flooding and the resumption of power to the areas. Experts say it's still too early to say, with the storm still moving through the region Saturday evening. But they believe gas prices will increase 5 cents to 25 cents per gallon.

Harvey also continued to take a toll on U.S. air travel Saturday, with more than 1,000 flight cancellations as of the early evening, according to FlightAware. Nearly 850 of the canceled flights were scheduled to either depart from or land at Houston's two airports.

The shipping industry also is expected to be disrupted by the worst hurricane to hit the refinery-rich Texas coast in more than 50 years.

Here's how Harvey is likely to affect business and pocketbooks:

■ **REFINERIES:** Nearly one-third of the nation's refining capacity sits in low-lying areas along the coast from Corpus Christi, Texas, to Lake Charles, Louisiana.

Several refineries at greatest risk of suffering a direct strike from high winds have already shut down, but it is the potential for flooding in the Houston and Beaumont areas that could really pinch gasoline supplies.

Flooding and power outages caused by a storm surge are considered the biggest risk.

"The biggest driver of how much this will increase gas prices is how much rain falls in Houston during the next three days," Andy Lipow, president of consultant Lipow Oil Associates, said Saturday. "We are in a wait-and-watch mode."

For now, Lipow is predicting gasoline prices will rise 10 cents per gallon east of the Rockies.

Tom Kloza, an analyst for the Oil Price Information Service, predicts that prices could rise by up to 25 cents a gallon, but that an increase of 5 cents to 15 cents is more likely, assuming that the hurricane doesn't cause lasting damage to refineries.

Flint Hills Resources announced that it would shutter a refinery before Harvey hit and Valero Energy Corp. said it was closing two facilities in Corpus Christi.

The prospect of supply interruptions sent gasoline futures to $1.74 a gallon, their highest level since April, before they retreated to around $1.67 by Friday afternoon.

In addition to the refinery closures, Formosa Plastics shut its petrochemical plant in Point Comfort, Texas, and OxyChem suspended operations at its petrochemical plant in Ingleside, Texas, according to Platts, an S&P Global division that tracks the commodities and energy industry.

■ **OIL AND GAS:** Companies have been evacuating workers from oil platforms in the Gulf of Mexico, and that is crimping the flow of oil and gas.

As of Friday, the U.S. Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement said workers had been removed from 86 of the 737 manned platforms used to pump oil and gas from beneath the Gulf.

The agency estimated that platforms accounting for about 22 percent of oil production and 23 percent of natural gas output in the Gulf had been shut down.

"We could see more production be taken offline in the Gulf of Mexico" if the path of the storm wanders farther east, said Jenna Delaney, an oil analyst for PIRA Energy. But, she noted, oil companies announced fewer platform shutdowns on Friday than they had on Thursday, which is an encouraging sign.

Exxon Mobil closed two of its platforms and was evacuating all personnel in the expected path of the storm, said spokeswoman Suann Guthrie. Shell halted operations on a big floating oil-production platform, and Anadarko evacuated workers and shut down four facilities in the western Gulf while continuing to operate those east of the storm's predicted path.

On shore, ConcoPhillips stopped all operations in the Eagle Ford shale formation, which lies across a swath of South Texas inland from the Gulf. A company spokeswoman cited safety and potential disruptions in getting oil and gas from the wells to market during the storm.

■ **SHIPPING:** Shipping terminals along the Texas coast shut down as the storm approached. Port operations in Corpus Christi and Galveston closed, and the port of Houston said container terminals and general cargo facilities closed around midday Friday.

Rates for carrying freight between the Gulf of Mexico and the U.S. East Coast rose.

■ **TRAVEL:** After more than 1,200 flight cancellations Friday and Saturday, airlines already had canceled an additional 823 flights scheduled for Sunday, according to FlightAware's calculations on Saturday evening.

Airlines were offering customers the chance to reschedule trips that would take them to Houston, San Antonio or Austin from Friday through the weekend.

Trump adviser says he nearly quit over president's remarks

Cohn

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump's top economic adviser sharply denounced the president's response to the racial violence in Charlottesville, saying in an interview that he felt "compelled" to speak out. Gary Cohn, who is Jewish, was so upset by Trump's comments that he wrote a letter of resignation but never submitted it.

"Citizens standing up for equality and freedom can never be equated with white supremacists, neo-Nazis, and the KKK," Cohn told The Financial Times in an interview published Friday. "I believe this administration can and must do better in consistently and unequivocally condemning these groups and do everything we can to heal the deep divisions that exist in our communities."

It was an extraordinary public rebuke of the president by a senior adviser, and came just as Cohn will be a key figure in the administration's fall push for sweeping tax reforms. It also played out as Cohn emerged as a candidate to replace Janet Yellen as chairman of the Federal Reserve when her term ends in February.

Cohn told associates he expressed his unhappiness to Trump in a conversation a week ago at the president's New Jersey golf club and considered stepping down, according to a person familiar with the conversations but not authorized to speak publicly about private talks. Two people familiar with his thinking said he'd written a resignation letter but then pocketed it.

"As a Jewish American, I will not allow neo-Nazis ranting 'Jews will not replace us' to cause this Jew to leave his job," Cohn said in the Financial Times interview.

Cohn said he had come under "enormous pressure" both to resign and to remain in his position with the administration. He told the Financial Times, "As a patriotic American, I am reluctant to leave my post as director of the National Economic Council because I feel a duty to fulfil my commitment to work on behalf of the American people."

Financial markets were rattled last week by rumors that Cohn would resign, and U.S. stocks dropped until the White House put such talk to rest. In the interview, Cohn aired publicly what he had been telling those close to him for more than a week: that he was upset by Trump's remarks that "many sides" were to blame for the violence in Charlottesville.

The White House had signed off on Cohn's interview, which was meant to outline the administration's plans for overhauling the tax code, according to officials.

White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said Cohn has spoken often with the president and that "Gary has not held back how he feels about the situation."

"He's been very open and honest, so I don't think anyone was surprised by the comments," Sanders said.

Nonetheless, longtime Trump associate Roger Stone said on Twitter that Cohn "should be fired immediately for his public attack on the president."

NYC calorie rule scrutinized in courts of law, and science

NEW YORK (AP)—As a court fight simmers over New York City's pioneering requirement for calorie counts on chain restaurant menus, scientists say the jury's still out on whether giving people the numbers spurs them to eat healthier.

The city says that by requiring eateries to tell people that their $4 cheeseburger will also cost them about 540 calories, it's helping diners make informed choices in an era of rising obesity.

New York City's first-in-the-nation rule took full effect in 2008. It was copied by other cities and counties and a half-dozen states and became part of President Barack Obama's 2010 health care overhaul. The repeatedly delayed federal regulation, which extends to grocery and convenience store chain menus, is now set to take effect next year.

But plenty of opponents to the idea remain, including some who question its effectiveness.

Studies to date haven't conclusively shown that restaurant-goers, on the whole, actually order lighter foods when the calorie tally is right there. It appears to influence some people, in some settings, and possibly restaurants' recipes, researchers say.

"What we haven't seen so far is any sort of dramatic change in the number of calories purchased at the population level," says Dr. Brian Elbel, a New York University health policy professor who co-authored a 2014 analysis of 31 studies on the subject, some of them his own. But "some people are definitely seeing and using this information."

The National Association of Convenience Stores cited some of that research when it sued to stop New York City from enforcing a retooled rule expanding the calorie labeling requirements to groceries and other small markets, saying the city was forcing businesses to spend thousands of dollars complying with a local rule when a national one is coming.

On Friday, a Manhattan federal judge approved a deal among lawyers on both sides that ensures the city will not enforce the expansion before May. The agreement also ensures that calorie counts won't disappear from chains that have posted them for years.

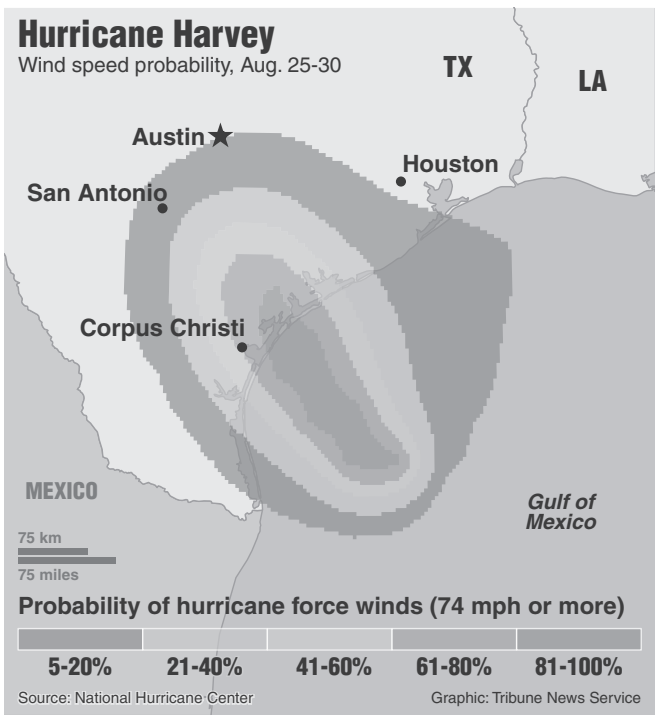
Nation

At least 2 dead as Harvey slams Texas coast, causing floods

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas (AP)—Harvey spun deeper into Texas and unloaded extraordinary amounts of rain Saturday after the once-fearsome hurricane crashed into vulnerable homes and businesses along the coastline in a blow that killed at least two people and injured up to 14.

Throughout the region between Corpus Christi and Houston, many people feared that toll was only the beginning. Authorities did not know the full scope of damage because weather conditions prevented emergency crews from getting into the hardest-hit places. And they dreaded the destruction that was yet to come from a storm that could linger for days and unload more than 40 inches (100 centimeters) of rain on cities, including dangerously flood-prone Houston, the nation's fourth-largest.

In the island community of Port Aransas, population 3,800, officials were unable to fully survey the town because of "massive" damage. Police and heavy equipment had only made it into the northernmost street.



AP

A driver works his way through a maze of fallen utility poles damaged in the wake of Hurricane Harvey, Saturday, Aug. 26, 2017, in Taft, Texas.

"I can tell you I have a very bad feeling and that's about it," said Mayor Charles Bujan, who had called for a mandatory evacuation but did not know how many heeded the order.

Some of the worst damage appeared to be in Rockport, a coastal city of about 10,000 that was directly in the storm's path. The mayor said his community took a blow "right on the nose" that left "widespread devastation," including homes, businesses and schools that were heavily damaged. Some structures were destroyed.

Rockport's roads were a mess of toppled power poles. A trailer blocked much of one major intersection. Wood framing from ripped-apart houses was strewn along Route 35 on the town's southern end.

Harvey's relentless wind tore the metal sides off the high school gym and twisted the steel door frame of its auditorium.

"We're still in the very infancy stage of getting this recovery started," said Aransas County spokesman Larry Sinclair.

Rockport Mayor Charles "C.J." Wax told The Weather Channel that the city's emergency response system had been hampered by the loss of cellphone service and other forms of communication.

As Trump struggles, some Republicans talking 2020 challenge

NEW YORK (AP)—Mark Cuban isn't ready to launch a formal campaign to challenge President Donald Trump.

Yet Cuban, an outspoken Texas billionaire who describes himself as "fiercely independent" politically, sees an opportunity for someone to take down the Republican president, who is increasingly viewed as divisive and incompetent even within his own party.

"His base won't turn on him, but if there is someone they can connect to and feel confident in, they might turn away from him," Cuban told The Associated Press. "The door is wide open. It's just a question of who can pull it off."

Indeed, just seven months into the Trump presidency, Republicans and right-leaning independents have begun to contemplate the possibility of an organized bid to take down the sitting president in 2020. It is a herculean task, some say a fantasy: No president in the modern era has been defeated by a member of his own party, and significant political and practical barriers stand in the way.

The Republican National Committee, now run by Trump loyalists, owns the rulebook for nominating the party's standard-bearer and is working with the White House to ensure a process favorable to the president.

Yet Trump's muddled response to a deadly white supremacist rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, this month has emboldened his critics to talk about the once unthinkable.

GOP officials from New Hampshire to Arizona have wondered aloud in recent days about the possibility of a 2020 primary challenge from a fellow Republican or right-leaning independent. No one has stepped forward yet, however, and the list of potential prospects remains small.

Ohio's GOP Gov. John Kasich has not ruled out a second run in 2020. Another Republican and frequent Trump critic, Nebraska Sen. Ben Sasse, last month visited Iowa, which hosts the nation's first presidential caucuses. And a handful of wealthy outsiders including Cuban and wrestler-turned-actor Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson, are being encouraged to join the fray.

Trump's comments about Charlottesville "frightened" many Republicans in New Hampshire, said Tom Rath, a veteran Republican strategist in the state that traditionally hosts the nation's first presidential primary election.

"While he has support from his people, the party itself is not married to him," Rath said of his party's president.

Trump denounced bigotry after the Virginia protests, but he also said "very fine people" were on "both sides" of the demonstrations, which drew neo-Nazis, white nationalists and members of the Ku Klux Klan. One woman was killed when a man drove his car into a crowd of counter-protesters.

Even before the divisive remarks, Trump's public approval ratings were bad. Gallup found in mid-August that the president earned the approval of just 34 percent of all adults and 79 percent of Republicans. Both numbers marked personal lows. And as he lashes out at members of his own party with increasing frequency, frustrated Republican officials have raised questions about the first-term president's political future.

Trump pardons ex-Sheriff Joe Arpaio over federal conviction

PHOENIX (AP)—President Donald Trump spared former Sheriff Joe Arpaio a possible jail sentence on Friday by pardoning the recent federal conviction stemming from his immigration patrols, reversing what critics saw as a long-awaited comeuppance for a lawman who escaped accountability for headline-grabbing tactics during his tenure as metropolitan Phoenix's top law enforcer.

Arpaio

The White House said the 85-year-old ex-sheriff was a "worthy candidate" for a presidential pardon. It was Trump's first pardon as president.

"I am pleased to inform you that I have just granted a full Pardon to 85 year old American patriot Sheriff Joe Arpaio. He kept Arizona safe!" Trump tweeted Friday.

The announcement came three days after a rally in Phoenix at which the president signaled his willingness to absolve Arpaio's misdemeanor contempt-of-court conviction.

Arpaio was in a celebratory mood after the pardon, eating dinner at an Italian restaurant as someone in his party ordered champagne. He told The Associated Press he was thankful for the pardon.

"I appreciate what the president did," he said. "I have to put it out there: Pardon, no pardon — I'll be with him as long as he's president."

The pardon drew a swift and harsh denunciation from Latinos and political leaders in Arizona and beyond. They said the action amounted to an endorsement of racism by wiping away the conviction of a man who has been found by the courts to have racially profiled Latinos in his immigration patrols.

"Pardoning Joe Arpaio is a slap in the face to the people of Maricopa County, especially the Latino community and those he victimized as he systematically and illegally violated their civil rights," Phoenix Mayor Greg Stanton said.

The White House announced the pardon late Friday after Trump fleshed out the details of his ban on transgender individuals serving in the military, a policy that will cheer his conservative base, and as a powerful Category 4 hurricane threatened to batter Texas with heavy winds and severe flooding.

Arpaio became a nationally known political figure over the past dozen years as he took aggressive action to arrest immigrants in the country illegally. But years of legal issues and costs stemming from his immigration efforts began to take a toll on his political power at home, and he was handily defeated by a Democrat in the 2016 election.

It coincided with Trump winning the White House based in large part on his immigration rhetoric, with Arpaio campaigning for him around the country.

Trump has been plagued by poor job approval ratings that currently stand at 34 percent, the lowest mark ever for a president in his first year. His decision on Arpaio may serve to energize Trump supporters dispirited over the president's decision a week ago to dismiss chief strategist Steve Bannon. But it has angered his opponents even more.

Asia

PH teenager's burial turns into protest vs killings

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A Filipino teenager at the center of the latest outcry against the president's bloody crackdown against illegal drugs was buried Saturday, with mourners turning his funeral into a protest against thousands of drug killings.

Hundreds of mourners and left-wing activists carried placards that read "Stop killing the poor" and "Justice for Kian" during a kilometers-long (miles-long) funeral march before Kian Loyd delos Santos was interred at a public cemetery in the Manila metropolis.

The 17-year-old student, who wanted to become a police officer, was one of more than 80 drug and crime suspects who were killed in purported gunbattles with police over three days this month in the bloodiest few days of President Rodrigo Duterte's anti-drug campaign. The killings sparked alarm and official investigations.

During a funeral Mass at a church, Roman Catholic Bishop Pablo David urged authorities to "stop the killings and start the healing."

AP

Protesters and supporters march with the hearse carrying slain Kian Loyd delos Santos, a 17-year-old student, during his funeral Saturday, Aug. 26, 2017, in suburban Caloocan city, north of Manila, Philippines.

The Rev. Flaviano Villanueva said that the slain student had become a symbol, and that his death and burial had "burst open the sleeping hearts and consciences of the Filipino people."

"This is proof that the country itself is screaming enough is enough, and we should end these killings," he said.

Murder and torture complaints were filed Friday against three police officers and their commander in the Aug. 16 shooting death of delos Santos in suburban Caloocan city.

"The thousands who lined up the streets and joined the funeral march of Kian delos Santos is a strong protest against Rodrigo Duterte's war on drugs and the poor," left-wing leader Renato Reyes said. "The people are saying, 'Enough!'"

Police say delos Santos was a drug dealer who opened fire with a pistol during a raid. His family, however, says he was mercilessly killed by police as he was pleading for his life.

During a televised Senate hearing this past week, Commission on Human Rights Chairman Chito Gascon expressed astonishment at police claims that most of the more than 3,200 drug suspects they have gunned down since the crackdown began last year fought back, prompting law enforcers to shoot them.

Aside from those deaths, more than 2,000 others have died in drug-related killings, including attacks by motorcycle-riding masked gunmen, who human rights groups allege are policemen in disguise or their civilian hit men. Police deny such claims.

Delos Santos's grieving parents and some neighbors have pointed to a village security camera video that shows a man, who they say was delos Santos, being held by both arms and dragged away from near his home shortly before he was shot in a dark, muddy alley near a canal. They said the video showing him in police custody belies the police claim that he tried to escape and that he had a pistol with him.

Police officers linked to the killing acknowledged in the Senate hearing that they were the ones in the video, but said the man they were dragging away was a civilian informant who was trying to hide his face from villagers out of fear.

N. Korea fires short-range missiles in latest test

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korea fired several rockets into the sea Saturday in the continuation of its rapid nuclear and missile expansion, prompting South Korea to press ahead with military drills involving U.S. troops that have angered Pyongyang.

The U.S. Pacific Command revised its initial assessment that the first and third short-range missiles failed during flight to say they flew about 250 kilometers (155 miles). It said that the second missile appears to have blown up immediately and that none posed threat to the U.S. territory of Guam, which the North had previously warned it would fire missiles toward.

South Korea's presidential office and military said North Korea fired "several" projectiles in what was presumed as a test of its 300-millimeter rocket artillery system.

Kim Dong-yub, a former South Korean military official who is now an analyst at Seoul's Institute for Far Eastern Studies, said that South Korean assessment doesn't necessarily contradict the U.S. evaluation that the launches involved ballistic missiles. North Korea's large-sized artillery rockets blur the boundaries between artillery systems and ballistic missiles because they create their own thrust and are guided during delivery, Kim said.

The presidential office in Seoul said the U.S. and South Korean militaries will proceed with their ongoing war games "even more thoroughly" in response to the launch. They are the first known missile firings since July, when the North successfully flight tested a pair of intercontinental ballistic missiles that analysts say could reach deep into the U.S. mainland when perfected.

The White House said that President Donald Trump—who has warned that he would unleash "fire and fury" if the North continued its threats—was briefed on the latest North Korean activity and "we are monitoring the situation."

The rival Koreas recently saw their always testy relationship get worse after Trump traded warlike threats. Saturday's launch comes during an annual joint military exercise between the United States and South Korea that the North condemns as an invasion rehearsal, and weeks after Pyongyang threatened to lob missiles toward Guam.

North Korea had walked back from the threat to lob missiles toward Guam, but there had been concerns that hostility will flare up again during the Ulchi-Freedom Guardian drills between the allies that run through Aug. 31.

However, some experts say North Korea is now mainly focused on the bigger picture of testing its bargaining power against the United States with its new long-range missiles and likely has no interest in letting things get too tense during the drills. They say the North may limit its reactions to low-level provocations like artillery and short-range missile launches.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Uneasy calm after 32 die in India riots over guru verdict

PANCHKULA, India (AP)—Hundreds of security forces marched through a northern Indian town on Saturday to maintain calm after supporters of a quasi-religious sect leader protested his rape conviction with violence that left at least 32 people dead. Authorities appealed to thousands of followers of the guru, who calls himself Saint Dr. Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh Ji Insaan, to vacate his headquarters in Sirsa, a town in Haryana state, and go home. "There are no instructions to security forces to enter the headquarters and forcibly clear it," said police spokesman Surjit Singh. After a court declared the sect leader guilty of raping two of his followers 15 years ago, mobs on Friday set fire to government buildings, vandalized bus stations and government vehicles, and attacked police officers and TV journalists in the town of Panchkula, 250 kilometers (155 miles) north of Sirsa. Police used tear gas and water cannons and fired bullets to control the mobs near the court building. Authorities lifted curfew restrictions on Panchkula, the main trouble spot, on Saturday after the night passed relatively peacefully and the area was cleared of protesters, said police officer Pradeep Kumar.

2nd storm in a week batters southern China

HONG KONG (AP)—A second tropical storm in days swept into southern China on Sunday, lashing Hong Kong and Macau with heavy rain and strong wind as the region reels from the strongest typhoon in decades that left at least 22 dead. Severe Tropical Storm Pakhar made landfall west of the Chinese casino hub of Macau in the early morning, packing maximum sustained winds of 90 kilometers (55 miles) per hour and gusts of up to 106 kph (65 mph). Forecasters in Hong Kong and Macau raised a storm signal two notches below the maximum, forcing the city to mostly shut down. Ferry operators halted services and airlines delayed or canceled some flights. The storm is expected to move farther inland and gradually weaken later Sunday. On Wednesday, Typhoon Hato left a trail of devastation as it barreled through the region, killing at least 22 people, including 10 in Macau and 12 more on mainland China. The storm's toll in Macau sparked a furious response by residents in the casino hub, who complained of the government's slow response. The city's chief weather officer was forced to resign because of the criticism. In an unprecedented move, soldiers from China's People's Liberation Army left their barracks to help residents and crews clean up the mess.

Rohingya try to enter Bangladesh to flee Myanmar violence

COX'S BAZAR, Bangladesh (AP)—Thousands of ethnic Rohingya Muslims are trying to cross from Myanmar into Bangladesh following an attack by Rohingya militants in western Myanmar that left 89 people dead in a dramatic escalation of communal violence that has plagued the region. The militants launched the attacks overnight Thursday on more than two dozen police and border outposts. The office of Myanmar's leader, Aung San Suu Kyi, said military and border police responded to the attacks—which left 12 security personnel and 77 Rohingya dead—by launching "clearance operations." A Rohingya leader at an unregistered camp in Bangladesh's Cox's Bazar district said he had heard that some 100,000 Rohingya had gathered along the border to try to enter Bangladesh, but the number could not be confirmed.

World

Thousands in Barcelona march shouting 'I'm not afraid!'

BARCELONA, Spain (AP)—Hundreds of thousands of peace marchers flooded the heart of Barcelona on Saturday shouting "I'm not afraid"—a public rejection of violence following extremist attacks that killed 15 people, Spain's deadliest in more than a decade.

Emergency workers, taxis drivers, police and ordinary citizens who helped immediately after the attack on Aug. 17 in the city's famed Las Ramblas boulevard led the march. They carried a street-wide banner with black capital letters reading "No Tinc Por," which means "I'm not afraid" in the local Catalan language.

The phrase has grown from a spontaneous civic answer to violence into a slogan that Spain's entire political class has unanimously embraced.

Spain's central, regional and local authorities tried to send an image of unity Saturday by walking behind emergency workers, despite earlier criticism that national and regional authorities had not shared information about the attackers well enough with each other.

In a first for a Spanish monarch, King Felipe VI joined a public demonstration, along with Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy and other Spanish and Catalan regional officials.

Still, some citizens whistled their displeasure as authorities passed by and held banners criticizing the king's role in promoting military exports to Saudi Arabia.

Barcelona police said some 500,000 people showed up to the march Saturday.

The Islamic State group has claimed the vehicle attacks in Barcelona and hours later in the coastal town of Cambrils that left 15 dead and over 120 wounded. The investigation into the Islamic extremist cell behind the attacks has shown that the group planned even more deadly carnage but accidently blew up a house in Alcanar where explosives were being built and gas tanks were being stored.

Eight suspects are dead, two are jailed under preliminary charges of terrorism and homicide and two more were freed by a judge but will remain under investigation.

Medical authorities said Saturday that 22 people wounded in the attacks are still being treated in hospitals. Six of them remain in critical condition.

In the northeastern town of Ripoll, home for many of the attackers, members of the local Muslim community and other residents gathered Saturday in a central square to condemn the deadly attacks. Located at the foothills of the Pyrenees, the town is where most suspects came under the influence of a radical imam, investigators say.

The sister of two of the alleged extremists gave an emotional speech thanking her neighbors for the support shown to Muslim families in Ripoll.

"We share the same grief and the (need) for an understanding of what happened," said Hafida Oukabir, whose younger brother Moussa was shot dead by police in Cambrils and whose elder brother Driss is under custody facing terrorism charges. "We must all work together to stop this from ever happening again."

Her sobbing speech was met with applause.

AP

A woman holds a banner reading in Spanish: "I am Muslim and Catalan, not a terrorist. Islam is Peace", during a protest by the Muslim community to condemn the vehicle attacks, in Barcelona, Spain, on Saturday, Aug. 19, 2017.

WORLD BRIEFS

Iraq says 90 percent of Tal Afar retaken from IS

BAGHDAD (AP)—Iraq's military said Saturday it has driven Islamic State militants out of 90 percent of the northern town of Tal Afar and retaken the town center. Brig. Gen. Yahya Rasool, a military spokesman, spoke hours after Iraq's foreign minister, Ibrahim al-Jaafari, said that 70 percent of the town west of Mosul had been retaken. Al-Jaafari spoke during a news conference with his French counterpart. Iraqi officials often declare areas liberated before the fighting has completely ended, and the militants have been known to carry out surprise counterattacks. Iraq launched the operation to retake Tal Afar on Sunday, a month after it declared the northern city of Mosul, its second largest, to be fully liberated. Tal Afar is about 150 kilometers (93 miles) from Syria's border and it's among the last IS-held towns in Iraq. Iraqi and Syrian forces have advanced against the extremist group on a number of fronts in recent months with the help of a U.S.-led coalition. U.S.-backed and Kurdish-led forces are currently battling IS inside the group's self-declared capital, Raqqa, in northern Syria. IS still controls large areas in Syria and a handful of towns in Iraq. In the past, it has managed to inspire or carry out attacks in Europe and elsewhere even while suffering battlefield setbacks in the Middle East.

Syrian troops capture wide areas from IS in country's center

BEIRUT (AP)—Syrian government forces and their allies have captured a wide area from the Islamic State group in the country's center, two days after besieging it, an opposition monitoring group and a Syrian military arm said Saturday. The government-controlled Syrian Central Military Media and the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights say troops and their allies are now in control of the area between the central town of Sukhna and Shaer to the west. On Thursday, troops surrounded the area of 2,000 square kilometers (772 square miles) in the Syrian desert, widely referred to as Badia. In recent months, Syrian troops and allied militiamen have advanced on three fronts against IS under the cover of Russian airstrikes. One of their main targets is the contested eastern city of Deir el-Zour, where the militants have imposed a siege for years on a small government-held pocket. SCMM said military experts are now dismantling explosives left behind by the extremists in Badia. IS once controlled nearly half of Syria, but has been driven back by an array of Syrian forces, including a Kurdish-led force backed by U.S.-led airstrikes. Now IS controls less than 30 percent of Syria and is expected to lose more in the coming months. In the country's north, where one of the government attacks is taking place, a Syrian journalist was killed Saturday while covering the fighting with IS. The state-run Syrian Arab News Agency said its correspondent Mohammed Nasr, 34, was killed in the northern province of Raqqa, without giving further details.

Chador in, hijab out: Iran VP's wardrobe draws criticism

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—Just a couple of weeks into her appointment, the new Iranian vice president's decision to abandon her fashion style for the all-encompassing black chador is raising questions among women in the Islamic Republic—especially after she said President Hassan Rouhani personally asked her to wear the traditional women's garment.

Although Laaya Joneidi typically used to wear a hijab—the headscarf that is mandated by law in today's Iran—and a long coat with pants, her switch to the more conservative chador serves as a political statement in and of itself in the Islamic Republic.

And coming after Rouhani failed to nominate any women to serve as ministers in his Cabinet, some are questioning the moderate cleric's campaign promise to bring more women into the government.

"Not only could Rouhani not appoint a woman minister, but also he could not appoint a vice president who does not wear the chador either and forced her to wear the chador," tweeted Hamid Mashayekhi Rad, an Islamic seminary student and activist.

The controversy began when a government website posted a photograph of Joneidi, who earned a doctorate from Harvard in comparative law and international commercial arbitration, wearing the long black chador, exposing only her face. Social media exploded with posts referring to her as a "chadori."

The controversy only grew after Joneidi, one of two female vice presidents in Rouhani's new government, gave an interview to the reformist daily newspaper Sharq.

"Mr. Rouhani, because of the protocol of the Cabinet, asked me to wear the chador," she told the newspaper. "I respected his demand."

The criticism then found a target in Rouhani, whose re-election campaign promised women spots in his 18-minister Cabinet. The cleric had no women ministers in his first term, and when he announced appointees for his second term, earlier in August, there were again no women among his picks.

The following day, Rouhani named two women as vice presidents, including Joneidi.

"Mr. Rouhani, based on which law or your protocol forced Laaya Joneidi to wear the chador?" tweeted Amene Shirafkan, a journalist who works at "Zanan-Emrooz" or "Today's Women" magazine.

The chador controversy underscores the unwritten protocol rules for those in public office and government in Iran—rules that also affect men. Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammed Javad Zarif famously wore a goatee before entering Rouhani's government, but later grew the full beard common for those in power.

The chador has a long history in Iranian politics. The sisters of Shah Reza Pahlavi famously tossed theirs away in public in the 1930s, before it was outlawed. In the 1979 Islamic Revolution, women who took to the streets to rally in support of the clerics embraced the chador. After the revolution installed the clerics in power, the hijab became law.

In theory, women not wearing the chador are to wear baggy clothes and coats as to not accentuate their form.

However, in Tehran today, some fashionable young women wear tighter clothes with a scarf loosely covering their head, technically meeting the requirements of the law while drawing the ire of conservatives. Morality police enforce the government-mandated Islamic dress code, while others have protested the requirement on social media.

Women in government find it tougher to resist the demand to wear the chador.

Focus

Critics: Trump pardon his latest affront against judiciary

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP)— President Donald Trump's pardon of former Arizona sheriff Joe Arpaio shows a lack of regard for an independent judiciary, say critics who note Trump's past criticism of federal judges, including the chief justice of the United States. Supporters counter that the veteran law enforcement officer deserved America's gratitude, "not the injustice of a political witch hunt."

"I am pleased to inform you that I have just granted a full Pardon to 85 year old American patriot Sheriff Joe Arpaio. He kept Arizona safe!," Trump tweeted late Friday after the White House announced that he had used his pardon power for the first time, sparing a political ally the prospect of jail time for defying court orders to halt police patrols that focused on Latinos.

The announcement came as Trump hunkered down at the Camp David presidential retreat while millions along the Texas coast braced themselves for Hurricane Harvey's impact. Trump's decision also followed the uproar that ensued after he said "both sides" were responsible for deadly violence during race-fueled clashes this month in Charlottesville, Virginia.

There is no legal dispute over Trump's ability to pardon in a contempt of court case, as was Arpaio's. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in 1925 that a presidential pardon for a criminal contempt of court sentence was within the powers of the executive, and Trump had telegraphed his move for days. But the pardon was unusual given that Arpaio was awaiting sentencing. It also had not gone through the normal pardon process, which includes lengthy reviews by the Justice Department and the White House counsel's office.

The Washington Post reported Saturday that Trump had asked Attorney General Jeff Sessions last spring whether it would be possible for the government to drop the criminal case against Arpaio. After being advised that would be inappropriate, Trump decided to let the case go to trial and, if Arpaio were convicted, could grant clemency later, the Post reported. The newspaper said its sources, who were not identified, were three people with knowledge of the conversation.

The Post reported that when press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders was asked about the Trump-Sessions conversation about Arpaio's case, she responded: "It's only natural the president would have a discussion with administration lawyers about legal matters. This case would be no different."

Reaction to Trump's pardon was sharp and swift, including among some fellow Republicans with whom the president has been feuding openly.

AP
In this Jan. 26, 2016 file photo, then-Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump is joined by Joe Arpaio, the sheriff of metro Phoenix, at a campaign event in Marshalltown, Iowa. President Donald Trump has pardoned former sheriff Joe Arpaio following his conviction for intentionally disobeying a judge's order in an immigration case. The White House announced the move Friday night, Aug. 25, 2017, saying the 85-year-old ex-sheriff of Arizona's Maricopa County was a "worthy candidate" for a presidential pardon.

House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., signaled his disagreement with the pardon through his spokesman. "Law-enforcement officials have a special responsibility to respect the rights of everyone in the United States," Ryan spokesman Doug Andres said in a statement. "We should not allow anyone to believe that responsibility is diminished by this pardon."

Republican Sen. John McCain of Arizona, who incurred Trump's wrath after voting against a Republican health care bill, said: "The president has the authority to make this pardon, but doing so at this time undermines his claim for the respect of rule of law as Mr. Arpaio has shown no remorse for his actions."

The state's junior senator, Republican Jeff Flake, also disagreed with the move.

"I would have preferred that the president honor the judicial process and let it take its course," tweeted Flake, a Trump critic who has come in for particularly harsh treatment from the president. Trump has called Flake, who is up for re-election next year, "toxic" and "WEAK" on border issues and crime. Trump has rooted openly for Flake's GOP challenger, state Sen. Kelli Ward, who supports Arpaio's pardon, which could become an issue in the race.

"We applaud the president for exercising his pardon authority to counter the assault on Sheriff Arpaio's heroic efforts to enforce the nation's immigration laws," she said.

Rep. Andy Biggs, R-Ariz., said, "America owes Sheriff Arpaio a debt of gratitude and not the injustice of a political witch hunt."

But while the pardon could in the short term energize Trump's conservative base, which includes many with strong anti-immigration views, the decision could further alienate voter groups, such as Latinos, whose support the Republican Party has said it needs to win future elections. Trump managed to defy those dynamics in 2016.

Jens David Ohlin, vice dean and professor at Cornell Law School, said he was disturbed by the pardon, given Trump's relationship with the judiciary.

"Ever since the campaign and the beginning of his administration he's had a very contentious relationship with the judiciary and hasn't shown much respect for either members of the judiciary or the proper role of the judiciary within our constitutional structure," Ohlin said Saturday.

During the campaign, Trump called Chief Justice John Roberts "an absolute disaster" and "disgraceful," mainly for two opinions Roberts wrote that left President Barack Obama's health care law intact. Trump also went after U.S. District Judge Gonzalo Curiel, who presided over fraud lawsuits against Trump University. Trump said Curiel was "a hater of Donald Trump" who couldn't be fair to Trump because of Curiel's "Mexican heritage" and because of Trump's campaign pledge to build a wall on the U.S.-Mexico border.

Trump also referred to U.S. District Judge James Robart as a "so-called judge" after Robart imposed a temporary halt on Trump's travel ban.

Arpaio earned a national profile by acting aggressively to arrest immigrants in the U.S. illegally, including tactics that Latino and immigrants' rights advocates said were akin to racial profiling.

His alliance with Trump centers heavily on immigration enforcement, such as getting local police officers to participate in immigration enforcement. Both men have also questioned the authenticity of Obama's birth certificate. They share a similar history of sparring with judges and even a birthday, June 14.

"Sheriff Joe Arpaio was the instigator of racial profiling and made official a policy of harassment and abuse based on the color of one's skin," said Janet Murguia, president of UnidosUS, a Hispanic civil rights and advocacy group. "Every person of color in this nation has been put in harm's way because of this action and that is unconscionable."

P.S. Ruckman Jr., who edits a blog about presidential pardons, said the pardon is not an indicator of any serious interest by Trump in the pardon power.

"It just looks like a political stunt, basically, as opposed to an act of policy," Ruckman said.

It is not unprecedented for a president to issue a pardon in his first year in office. President Gerald Ford pardoned Richard Nixon for his involvement in the Watergate scandal just four weeks after assuming office when Nixon stepped down. George H.W. Bush granted clemency after seven months in office.

Ruckman said that waiting until the end of a term to issue a pardon often gives the appearance that the president is trying to skirt accountability for it. President Bill Clinton ignited a major controversy on his final day in office with a last-minute pardon for fugitive financier Marc Rich, the ex-husband of a major Democratic fundraiser.

A year and a half before was to leave office, President George W. Bush set off a political backlash for commuting the prison sentence of I. Lewis "Scooter" Libby in a perjury and obstruction of justice case stemming from a CIA leak.

A look at the president's pardon power and how it works

President Donald Trump has exercised his pardon power for the first time, using it to pardon former Arizona Sheriff Joe Arpaio. A look at the president's unique power:

WHERE DOES THE PRESIDENT'S PARDON POWER COME FROM?

Article II, Section 2, Clause 1 of the Constitution says: "The President ... shall have Power to grant Reprieves and Pardons for Offences against the United States, except in Cases of Impeachment." The president's power can only be used to pardon someone for a federal crime, not a state one.

HOW DOES THE PARDON PROCESS USUALLY WORK?

Someone who has been convicted of a federal crime and wants to be pardoned makes a request for a pardon to the Justice Department's Office of the Pardon Attorney, which assists the president in exercising his pardon power. Department rules tell pardon seekers to wait at least five years after their conviction or their release from prison, whichever is later, before filing a pardon application.

It's then up to the pardon office to make a recommendation about whether a pardon is warranted. The office looks at such factors as how the person has acted following their conviction, the seriousness of the offense and the extent to which the person has accepted responsibility for their crime. Prosecutors in the office that handled the case are asked to weigh in. The pardon office's report and recommendation gets forwarded to the deputy attorney general, who adds his or her recommendation. That information is then forwarded to the White House for a decision.

WHAT MAKES ARPAIO'S PARDON UNUSUAL?

Arpaio didn't submit a pardon application through the Office of the Pardon Attorney. His pardoning also took place before he was sentenced. Arpaio was convicted July 31 of misdemeanor contempt of court for intentionally defying a 2011 court order to stop traffic patrols that targeted immigrants. He had been set to be sentenced Oct. 5 and faced up to six months in jail. The fact that Arpaio was pardoned for a misdemeanor offense, which carries a penalty of less than a year in jail, is also unusual. Generally those seeking presidential pardon have been convicted of felonies.

WHAT HAPPENS TO ARPAIO'S CASE NOW?

One of Arpaio's attorneys, Jack Wilenchik, said in a telephone interview Saturday that next week Arpaio's attorneys will file a motion to vacate his conviction and to dismiss the case with prejudice, "meaning forever." ''This is the end," he said. Wilenchik said of the pardon the "president has done the right thing here."

WHO ELSE MIGHT TRUMP PARDON?

Arpaio's is Trump's first pardon, but hundreds of other people also want his help. According to Justice Department statistics , as of Aug. 7 Trump had 376 requests for pardons pending and 1,508 requests for commutation, a reduction of a prison sentence a person is currently serving.

It's not unusual for presidents to ultimately use their power to help hundreds. During his time in office President Barack Obama granted 212 pardons and commuted the sentences of approximately 1,700 people, including about 300 drug offenders he pardoned on his last day in office and Chelsea Manning, the transgender Army intelligence officer convicted of leaking more than 700,000 U.S. documents. President George W. Bush pardoned 189 people and commuted 11 sentences.

Health & Fitness

How to deal with picky eaters

By BARBARA QUINN
THE MONTEREY COUNTY HERALD/TNS

I try not to take it personally when my grandkids don't like what I cook. Vegetables? Let's just say—thanks to concerted efforts on the part of mom, grandma's and their excellent preschool staff—these little ones are expanding their nutritional horizons.

Games sometimes work.

Frances: "I don't like that, Grammy."

Me: "Oh good, because this food is only for grownups. When you get older, you'll really like it."

Frances: "I want to try it!"

Me: "I'm not sure … but … OK."

Frances: "I like it!"

What makes some kids pickier eaters than others? One reason may be differences in personality, according to a new study in the Journal of Child Psychology. Researchers observed how 136 infants responded to new foods and new toys during their first 18 months of life. They discovered that infants who were reserved about new toys also tended to be less accepting of new foods. That suggests a link between personality and attitudes about food, say the authors.

Don't give up just because your child is less than enthusiastic about downing his zucchini. Other research consistently shows that infants and children can learn to accept new foods if their caregivers continue to offer them. It may take as many as eight to 10 offerings before a child learns to accept certain foods.

And it's never too late to start. Flavors from what a mom eats during pregnancy and lactation get passed on to her baby, says Julie Mennella, a biopsychologist at the Monell Chemical Senses Center in Philadelphia. So if a mother eats vegetables during these early years, her infant is familiar with the taste of those foods when they are introduced.

A recent clinical trial conducted by Mennella and her research team found that breastfed infants whose moms drank carrot and other types of vegetable juices were more likely to accept the flavors of these vegetables when they began to eat solid foods. Another bonus: Moms also developed a taste for vegetables during the time they drank the vegetable juices.

DREAMSTIME/TNS

According to a new study in the Journal of Child Psychology, infants who were reserved about new toys also tended to be less accepting of new foods. That suggests a link between personality and attitudes about food, say the author.

Regardless of what tricks we pull to get our kiddos to eat healthier, we should not force food on a child.

"All young children are more-or-less picky about food," says child feeding expert Ellyn Satter. "They warm up slowly to unfamiliar foods and may have to see, watch you eat, touch or taste a food several times before they learn to like it."

Demonstrate a positive attitude about food and your child is apt to catch that outlook. Even if you have to sometimes use reverse psychology.

Barbara Quinn is a registered dietitian and certified diabetes educator affiliated with Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula. She is the author of "Quinn-Essential Nutrition" (Westbow Press, 2015). Email her at to barbara@quinnessentialnutrition.com.

Personal Trainer

Strength training with a purpose

Rather than improving your performance in a sport or developing specific muscles, "functional strength training" gives real-life benefits.

What it is

Workout aimed at improving your coordination, strength and endurance in a specific everyday activity or activities

Designing practical exercises

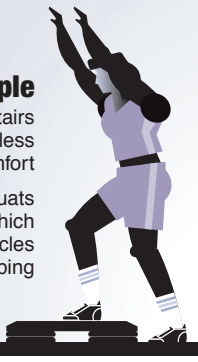
1 Analyze the physical demands of daily activities you want to enhance; some things to look for:

- Coordination required
- Speed of movement
- Range of joint motion

2 Look specifically at the types of muscle contractions required:

- Pulling toward you
- Pushing away
- Twisting or off-center movement
- Exerting force on a stationary object

3 Put together exercise routines that will improve your strength for those movements



Example

Goal: Climb stairs more easily, with less discomfort

Exercises: Squats and step-ups, which strengthen muscles used in stair climbing

Source: American Council on Exercise
Graphic: Paul Trap, Tribune News Service

This advertorial is sponsored by Tan Siu Lin Foundation

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HEALTH IS WEALTH

Tan Siu Lin Foundation

Immunotherapy succeeds in thwarting Type 1 diabetes in study

By MELISSA HEALY
LOS ANGELES TIMES/TNS

A form of immunotherapy gaining ground as a way to treat childhood food allergies has shown promise in treating another rising scourge of children and young adults: Type 1 diabetes.

In a small but rigorous clinical trial, British investigators gave patients recently diagnosed with the metabolic disorder a truncated version of the chemical that gives rise to insulin.

After a quarter-century of failed efforts to treat diabetes with an immune therapy, the experimental treatment appeared to quell the immune system's assaults on the body's insulin-production machinery. The authors of the new study call their experimental treatment "an appealing strategy for prevention," both in the earliest stages of Type 1 diabetes and in children who are at high genetic risk of developing the disease.

Over the trial's 12-month duration, eight newly diagnosed diabetic subjects who got a placebo treatment required steadily increasing insulin doses to maintain glycemic control. As their immune systems progressively destroyed the pancreatic cells that normally produce the essential hormone, their daily insulin use grew on average 50 percent.

The 19 subjects who got the experimental immunotherapy, however, continued to produce their own insulin. Among the subjects who got the experimental immunotherapy, the need for added shots of the hormone did not escalate in the year following their diagnosis.

The different metabolic trajectories of subjects in the trial's control group and its active arm were evident at three months—the earliest point at which a surrogate marker for insulin production was measured.

DREAMSTIME/TNS

The progressive destruction of insulin-producing beta-cells in Type-1 diabetes was halted by immunotherapy in a new trial.

The report of the early-stage clinical trial, published Wednesday in the journal Science Translational Medicine, offers some preliminary reassurance that immunotherapy could be used safely in this growing population.

Researchers have been wary of pursuing the strategy in diabetes, worried that it could accelerate or strengthen the immune system's attack on insulin-producing pancreatic cells, or cause dangerous allergic reactions. In the current study, injections of an immunotherapeutic agent caused no detectable worrisome response—not even redness or swelling at the site of injection—prompting the authors to declare its safety profile "very favorable."

Recent years have seen progress in the bid to develop chemical mimics of allergens that train and reassure the defenders of the immune system rather than inflame and encourage them. The approach, called antigen-specific immunotherapy, has seen growing success in the treatment of allergies to common foods, such as peanuts, eggs and soy.

Similar to food allergies, Type 1 diabetes is an immune disorder—a disease in which the immune system misidentifies a harmless or even necessary agent (whether ingested peanuts or insulin-making cells in the pancreas) as a threat. The immune system's assault not only can cause discomfort and danger in the form of itching, swelling or anaphylactic shock. In diabetes, it destroys a function that's essential to the body's ability to extract fuel from food and to keep freely circulating blood sugar from damaging organs and blood vessels.

Just as lab-produced chemical snippets of peanuts accustom an overactive immune system to the eventual introduction of real peanuts, the researchers hoped that the chemical flag they devised would teach the immune systems of newly diagnosed diabetics to recognize insulin and call off their attack on its source.

By using just a piece of the antigen that typically causes the immune reaction, the approach of such "peptide immunotherapy" aims to inure the immune system to the object of attack while avoiding a full-on allergic response.

Life & Style

Princess Diana's influence endures 20 years after her death

LONDON (AP)—The shock came late on a summer evening: After an idyllic Mediterranean holiday, Princess Diana had been in a car crash in Paris. Her boyfriend was dead; she was hospitalized, condition unclear.

She died a few hours later on Aug. 31, 1997, plunging Britain into grief that lingers to this day. Twenty years later, the memory of Diana—a youthful mother cut down, leaving two children behind—remains vital, her influence still felt.

Time has blurred the memories, but people around the world still remember Diana as a young bride, so taken with Prince Charles, and as a glamorous trendsetter dancing at the White House with John Travolta. She was the fun-loving mom taking her two boys on amusement park rides, and the tireless charity worker who reached out to AIDS patients when they were shunned by much of society.

The sons Diana left behind—Prince William, now 35, and Prince Harry, 32—are playing increasingly important roles in Britain's national life as the public focuses on the next generation of royals, sometimes at the expense of William and Harry's father, Prince Charles.

"Her essential legacy is her children and the fact is that they have become known more as her children than as his, in the sense that the charity work they are doing resonates with what she was doing—difficult issues like mental health, just like she took on AIDS," Diana biographer Andrew Morton said. "So she has a living legacy."

Morton's 1992 book about Diana revealed the depth of her despair: her struggle with a serious eating disorder, attempts at self-harm, and what he calls the "deep unhappiness" of her union with Charles, which ended in a bitter divorce in 1996.

It was supposed to be so different. Charles was heir to the throne, and Diana's entry into the royal family meant she was likely to become queen one day.

In this 1980 file photo, Lady Diana Spencer, 21, Prince Charles's girlfriend, is pictured at the Kindergarten in St. Georges Square, Pimlico, London, where she works as a teacher. AP

Theirs was perhaps a common story of infidelity and broken vows, but played out on an uncommonly public stage. Each used TV interviews and books by favored authors as megaphones in their bids for public sympathy.

Charles, with his somewhat stiff demeanor and unapproachable public persona, could never compete with Diana's doe-eyed appeal, especially when she famously complained there had always been "three people in this marriage"—an arch reference to Camilla Parker Bowles, who would marry Charles eight years after Diana's sudden death.

Many saw Diana as a young mother wronged by a privileged older husband's refusal to give up his lifelong mistress—even though the princess admitted to affairs of her own.

Refusing to fit the Windsor mold, she sought new ways to cope with fabulous wealth, worldwide fame, and sky-high expectations. She reached out and actually touched AIDS patients—a taboo at the time—and travelled to former combat zones to highlight the dangers land mines posed to civilians.

Many felt they could relate to her when she recounted her own battles with bulimia and talked openly of her disappointment and loneliness.

Some remember her for bringing a refreshing informality to the royal family—for example, taking young William and Harry in 1993 to Thorpe Park, a popular amusement center near London where they squealed and screamed along with everyone else on the water rides.

Carol Meredith, a nurse who recently visited the Princess Diana Memorial Fountain in Hyde Park with her husband, said that in the past senior royals would have had the amusement park cleared so they could enjoy it without mingling with the public.

Today, she said, the royals aren't like that.

"Diana changed that," she said. "When she used to take her kids to Thorpe Park, she enjoyed being with everybody else and doing the same as everybody else. She changed what you think of the royal family."

Meredith's husband, Andrew, said Diana was different from other royals.

"They were a little bit staid," he said. "They were a little bit, you know, 'We are the royalty, here to be seen but not to be spoken to or touched.' At least with Diana, you felt as if she was touchable. She was within reach."

The difference between the two approaches—and the depth of the public's affection for Diana—crystallized in the days after her death, when tens of thousands of mourners paid tribute to Diana by placing flowers outside London's Kensington Palace, where she had lived.

Queen Elizabeth II was on vacation in Scotland at the time of the accident, and she remained there for several days. She declined to lower the flag atop Buckingham Palace to half-staff, citing protocol, as rare public anger mounted against the monarch.

Elizabeth seemed, publicly at least, unmoved by Diana's death, even as the prime minister—media-savvy Tony Blair—coined a memorable phrase in describing Diana as "the people's princess."

The queen eventually relented and came to London to pay her respects. The royal family then took steps to regain public favor, in part by adopting the more people-friendly approach Diana had used.

From teacher to tragic figure

LONDON (AP)—It has been 20 years since the death of Princess Diana in a car crash in Paris and the outpouring of grief that followed the death of the "people's princess."

Here is a timeline of the key moments in Princess Diana's life:

■ July 1, 1961: Diana Frances Spencer is born into an aristocratic family.

■ February 24, 1981: Lady Diana's engagement to Prince Charles, 32, is announced.

■ July 29, 1981: Diana, 20, marries Prince Charles at St Paul's Cathedral in London. The wedding was broadcast around the world, watched by hundreds of millions on television.

■ June 21, 1982: Princess Diana's first son, William Arthur Philip Louis, is born. He is known as Prince William.

■ September 15, 1984: The royal couple's second son, Henry Charles Albert David, is born. He is known as Prince Harry.

■ June 1992: Andrew Morton's book, "Diana, Her True Story," is published. It reveals she attempted suicide and suffered from an eating disorder.

■ December 9, 1992: Charles and Diana's formal separation is announced to Parliament by Prime Minister John Major

■ November 20, 1995: Diana speaks about her marital problems, affairs, postnatal depression, and tensions with the royal family in a widely-watched interview on the BBC.

■ December 20, 1995: Buckingham Palace says the Queen wrote to the couple earlier that week calling on them to divorce.

■ August 28, 1996: Diana and Charles divorce.

■ August 31, 1997: Diana and her companion Dodi Fayed die in a high-speed car crash in Paris.

■ September 6, 1997: Thousands attend Diana's funeral in London.

Taylor Swift sets records for Spotify streams, YouTube views

NEW YORK (AP) — Spotify says Taylor Swift has set a new global first day streaming record.

The music delivery site said Saturday it had logged more than 8 million same-day streams for her new single, "Look What You Made Me Do."

The 27-year-old singer dropped the much-anticipated song late Thursday to streaming platforms and iTunes.

She wrote and produced it with frequent collaborator Jack Antonoff, who performs in the bands Bleachers and fun. It's the first single from her sixth album, "reputation," set to be released Nov. 10.

The video for the song will premiere Sunday on the MTV Video Music Awards. A clip previewed Friday on "Good Morning America."

YouTube said Saturday the song's lyric video broke a record for that site, with more than 19 million same day views.

Twitter retaliation: Stephen King blocks Trump from 'It'

BANGOR, Maine (AP) — Stephen King is retaliating against President Donald Trump for blocking him on Twitter.

King

In a post late Thursday, the Maine horror author said he would block Trump from seeing the upcoming movie "It" or the currently showing television series "Mr. Mercedes," both based on his books.

King's tweet says "No clowns for you, Donald. Go float yourself."

The movie "It" is about a group of children who confront their fears while confronting the evil balloon-carrying clown, Pennywise. The movie is due out next month.

"Mr. Mercedes" is about a killer who drives a stolen Mercedes into a crowd. The series began airing earlier this month on the Audience network.

King was blocked by the president this summer. He has a long history of being critical of Trump.

'RuPaul's Drag Race' keeps focus on art, not its impact

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A deafening, auto-tuned voice screeches "Gentlemen, start your engines," while a lipstick, a rear-view mirror and a crown speed by illuminated in pink and blue hues. Just as the intensity becomes all too much, it abruptly stops. Suddenly, a blonde beauty arrives carrying a racing flag in each hand. The voice now has a face, and the screech turns soothing, aspirational even, "May the best woman win."

This dazzling intro signals just one thing: "RuPaul's Drag Race " is on.

The reality TV competition's color and energy are hard to ignore and impossible to forget. It's why "Drag Race" in its ninth season is nominated for seven Emmy Awards, including best reality competition. It's the most nominations for a show that was once a DIY favorite on a little-known network, but is now competing against heavyweights "Top Chef" and "Project Runway."

RuPaul kicked off the show's breakthrough year last September, winning his first Emmy in the best reality show host category. He's up for the award again in a few weeks.

This year's batch of Emmy nods is the latest success for the show, which follows drag artists with vibrant personalities, heart-wrenching backstories and witty retorts competing to become "America's Next Drag Superstar." Since March, "Drag Race" received a highly-coveted "SNL" parody, found a bigger stage on VH1 and garnered its best ratings yet.

The impact is apparent in the LGBT community. During the season, gay bars in West Hollywood are packed at 8 p.m. sharp on Fridays for "Drag Race" viewing parties, often hosted by past contestants. Kelsey Jacobsen is a devoted fan who routinely attends viewings at Micky's West Hollywood. Like many fans at gay bars and nightclubs throughout the country, Jacobsen comes for the sense of community.

"It's one of the biggest gay, iconic things of our generation," Jacobsen said. "RuPaul has done so much to move the gay movement forward."

AP

In this Aug. 8, 2017 photo, RuPaul, host of "RuPaul's Drag Race," poses for a portrait at Allied Studios in Simi Valley, Calif. Winner of the 2016 Emmy for best reality TV show host, RuPaul is up for the award again this year.

He's also become a springboard for drag queens' careers. Past contestants have hosted their own TV comedy specials, sold out international tours and released albums. Viceland announced last week it will air a talk show by "Drag Race" alums Trixie Mattel and Katya Zamolodchikova.

Yet for all the cultural fanfare, RuPaul said in a recent interview that "Drag Race" has never tried to effect change or impart knowledge.

"Our goal is first and foremost to do a show that celebrates drag," he said.

Politics and history are inherent to telling drag artists' stories, often ones of courage and learning how to shine in darkness, he said.

However, not everyone is on board with the stories being told. Drag performer Landon Cider doesn't see her community of drag kings on screen. She said that's problematic as the show champions LGBT "herstory."

"When you tell people, 'This is our 'herstory,'' how about you really talk about the biological her as well and not just the male version of her, which is another iteration of sexism," Cider said.

Cider is "Drag Race"-adjacent, often performing alongside former contestants and occasionally appearing in online videos for the show's production company World of Wonder. However, she's never been on "Drag Race," despite having applied three times. No drag king has ever been a contestant.

American holds onto Air Guitar World Championship title

COPENHAGEN, Denmark (AP) — Matt "Airistotle" Burns is the best when it comes to pretend playing guitar.

The American successfully defended his title at the 22nd Air Guitar World Championships in Oulu, Finland on Friday after competing in the finals against 15 contestants from South Korea, Pakistan, Sweden, Britain, Canada and other countries.

Burns, of Staten Island, New York, finished ahead of runners-up Patrick "Ehrwolf" Culek of Germany and Alexander "The Jinja Assassin" of Australia, who tied for second place. Japan's 15-year-old Show-Show placed third.

A heavy metal version of "I Will Survive" helped Burns romp away with a score of 35.4. Culek and Roberts each scored 34.6 points, Show-Show 34.5.

The Air Guitar World Championships started off as a joke, but has grown into an annual celebration of guitar-miming chordeographers that draws people to Finland from around the world.

NYT pulls book from best-seller list over suspicious sales

NEW YORK (AP)—A novel called "Handbook for Mortals" had a very brief reign at the top of a New York Times best-seller list.

The paper confirmed Friday that it had pulled Lani Sarem's book from its young adult hardcover list for Sept. 3 because of "inconsistencies" in the reporting of sales. The announcement came after online complaints that "Handbook for Mortals" had benefitted from so-called "bulk sales," when hundreds or thousands of copies are ordered by a single buyer. On Twitter, young adult author Phil Stamper and others had questioned how a book they knew little about could reach No. 1 on the Times list.

"After investigating the inconsistencies in the most recent reporting cycle, we decided that the sales for 'Handbook for Mortals' did not meet our criteria for inclusion," the Times said in a statement issued through communications director Jordan Cohen. "We've issued an updated 'Young Adult Hardcover' list for September 3, 2017, which does not include that title." Cohen told The Associated Press that it was a "very rare occurrence" for a book to be removed from the paper's best-seller listings.

Sarem told the AP on Friday that she was unaware of any efforts to manipulate sales and that thousands of copies had sold through pre-orders at gatherings such as Wizard World Comic Con, in Chicago, where she is currently promoting "Handbook for Mortals."

"We've been doing this all year," she said during a telephone interview. Among those who have been publicizing the book—"American Pie" actor Thomas Ian Nicholas, who is also at Wizard World and in June told radio station WMMR in Philadelphia that he was hoping to produce and star in a film adaptation.

Published Aug. 15, "Handbook for Mortals" is billed as the first of a fantasy series about a young woman with supernatural powers. It's also billed as the first release through the publishing arm of a Los Angeles-based web site, geeknation.com, which calls itself "an online entertainment destination serving up a fresh, daily dose of news, opinion, lifestyle and community."

The novel's popularity seems highly selective. It ranked No. 34,765 on Amazon.com as of Friday afternoon, but recorded enough sales at independent stores to reach No. 2 on the American Booksellers Association's young adult list. Spokesman Dan Cullen of the ABA, a trade group representing thousands of independent sellers, said the association was reviewing the book's rankings.

Childhood dog bite victim is happy with pet-free life

DEAR ABBY: I'm not a dog person. I'm not even an animal person. I am, however, surrounded by dog owners—my family, my husband's family, my neighbors. Back in middle school, I was bitten several times by dogs while delivering my paper route.

My husband has been without a dog for five years (since the beginning of our relationship). Over the last six months, he has begun to ask when he can get "us" a dog. I absolutely do not want one. They're not clean, they make "messes," and we will constantly have to find someone to care for it when we travel. I have told him this, yet he continues asking. We can't even agree on a hypothetical breed of dog.

I suppose I could say, "Go ahead," with the condition that my husband will have to shoulder all pet-related responsibilities. But we both know how well that will work out. What do you think?

WARY IN WISCONSIN

DEAR WARY: There's a saying, "Once bitten, twice shy." Because you have been bitten more than once, your reason for not wanting a dog seems logical. Frankly, I think it would be unfair to the animal to bring it into a household in which it wasn't unanimously welcomed. And if you think your husband would lay the responsibility for caring for the dog on you, you should not agree.

DEAR ABBY: My 62-year-old father has recently started to streak his hair with fluorescent colors. He does it when he goes to his job and coordinates his hair color with his outfits. As far as I know, his employer has not said anything as of yet.

Also, Dad has difficulty with social cues. My mother and I aren't happy with his "fashion" choices and we plead with him to stop doing this. It's embarrassing because it looks stupid and ridiculous. He claims he doesn't care what others think and that he has flair.

Are my mother and I wrong to criticize his "flair"? Isn't this behavior really inappropriate for a man his age? How can we convince him that he's making a fool of himself and should stop? Your help is appreciated.

NO FOOL LIKE AN OLD FOOL

DEAR N.F.L.A.O.F.: Repeat after me: We cannot change other people; we can only change the way we react to them. Understand that how your father presents himself reflects only on him,not you. Because you and your mother have tried reasoning with him and he refuses to listen, you all might be happier if you stop making HIS fashion choices YOUR problem.

DEAR ABBY: My wife seems to only want to have sex with me when I'm supposed to be at work. It's really flattering, but I am at risk of losing my job. We don't have enough savings to last more than a couple of months if I'm out of work. She wanted me to call in sick today, but I didn't know how to say no without offending her. Help!

JOHN IN CANADA

DEAR JOHN: Try this. Ask your wife, "Which is more important to you—me in your bed or food on the table and a roof over our heads? I'll be home by 6 o'clock. Be ready!"

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

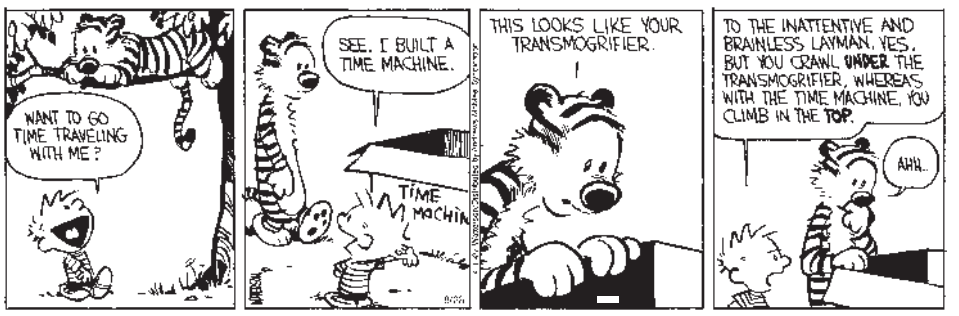
By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

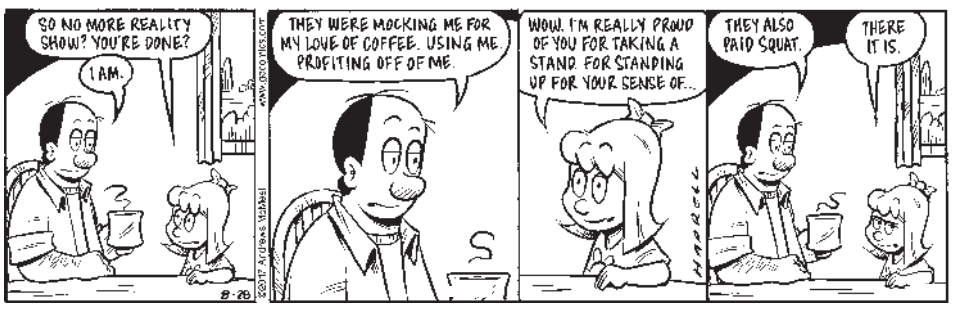

WANT TO GO TIME TRAVELING WITH ME?
SEE. I BUILT A TIME MACHINE.
TIME MACHIN
THIS LOOKS LIKE YOUR TRANSMOGRIFIER.
TO THE INATTENTIVE AND BRAINLESS LAYMAN, YES, BUT YOU CRAWL UNDER THE TRANSMOGRIFIER, WHEREAS WITH THE TIME MACHINE, YOU CLIMB IN THE TOP.
AHH.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

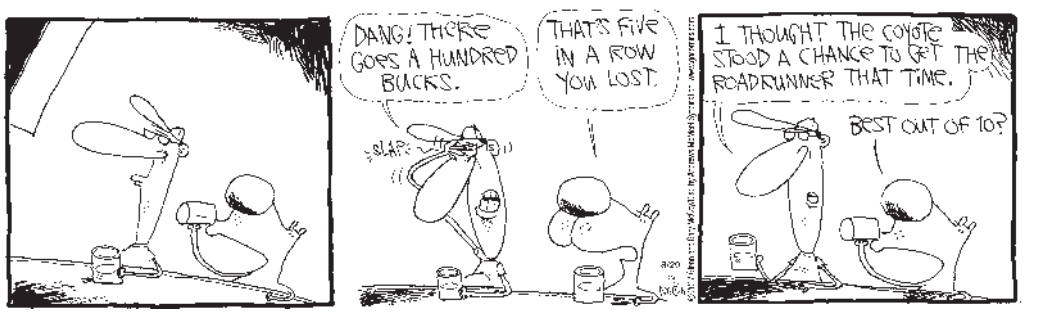
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


SO NO MORE REALITY SHOW? YOU'RE DONE?
I AM.
THEY WERE MOCKING ME FOR MY LOVE OF COFFEE. USING ME. PROFITING OFF OF ME.
WOW. I'M REALLY PROUD OF YOU FOR TAKING A STAND. FOR STANDING UP FOR YOUR SENSE OF...
THEY ALSO PAID SQUAT.
THERE IT IS.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


DANG! THERE GOES A HUNDRED BUCKS.
THAT'S FIVE IN A ROW YOU LOST.
SLAP!
I THOUGHT THE COYOTE STOOD A CHANCE TO GET THE ROADRUNNER THAT TIME.
BEST OUT OF 10?

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

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36 Fun partner
38 NASCAR advertiser
40 Aunt, in Acapulco
41 Crooned
43 Fairly
45 Criticize harshly
47 GIs' entertainers
48 Yalie
49 Skilled writer
54 Tolkien creature
55 Host
56 Chinese chairman
57 Fan's cry
58 Bargains
59 Diner dessert

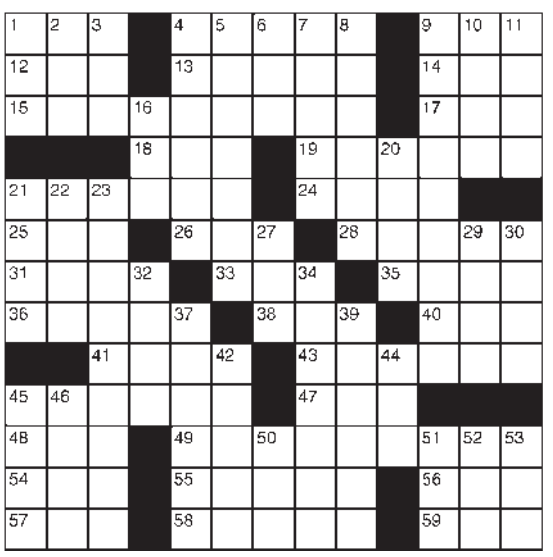
DOWN

1 — de mer
2 Past
3 Chest muscle
4 Chess piece
5 How hordes move
6 Boxing legend
7 Paris subway
8 Odorless gas
9 "Sweet Emotion" rock band
10 Stead
11 Body sci.
16 The Sunflower St.
20 Squad
21 Bluenose
22 Tittle
23 "The Wealth of Nations" author
27 Mornings (Abbr.)
29 A Great Lake
30 Burn somewhat
32 Bound
34 Viennese pastry
37 Fell in flakes
39 Theater freebies
42 Garden statuette
44 Male turkey
45 Scoff
46 Forearm bone
50 TV pioneer
51 Little rascal
52 — chi
53 Weed whacker

Solution time: 26 mins.

A	A	H		T	S	P		T	A	B	B	Y
D	I	E		U	P	A		W	F	O	T	E
D	O	E		B	E	L		I	T	O	U	T
E	L	L		S	W	A	I	N				
D	I	S	C		E	U	R		E	V	E	N
			R	A	D		E	M	F	I	R	E
	D	L	E	R				B	O	A	S	T
W	A	Y	O	F	F		M	A	X			
O	M	E	N		R	E	O		Y	O	W	L
				T	F	N	D	S		S	A	O
D	U	K	E	I	T	O	U	I		S	N	O
U	N	I	O	N		C	L	E		I	D	S
B	A	N	N	S		H	E	P		E	S	E

Last Friday's Answer 8-28



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Florence Welch, 31; Armie Hammer, 31; Jack Black, 48; Shania Twain, 52.

Happy Birthday: Stand by your beliefs, but don't push them on others. Do what works for you and do it well. Common sense, and recognizing what's true and what isn't will encourage better choices and friendships. Don't make too many personal changes this year. Stick to the basics and work to stabilize your domestic environment. Your numbers are 2, 9, 16, 25, 28, 39, 41.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Work hard and save. Concentrate on securing your position and increasing your value. Updating your qualifications will allow you to present what you have to offer to a more diverse market. Romance and physical improvements are highlighted. ✪✪✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Keep impulse behavior to a minimum. If you really want change, do something constructive that will add to your comfort and improve your attitude. Focus on your surroundings and adjusting the way you live. Don't spend money, do the work yourself. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Avoid trouble. Being charming will work better than trying to pressure someone. Listen carefully and you'll come to the right decision. Your priorities should be keeping the peace, romance and personal growth. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Choose to be passionate, not agitated. If someone wants too much, offer what you can and ask for as much in return. Keep the playing field equal and your relationships with others will be far less tedious. Choose simplicity over chaos. ✪✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Make personal adjustments to the way you look or how you do things instead of trying to change others. Show compassion and extend a helping hand to someone close to you. Anger will solve nothing, but patience and sound solutions will. ✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Be considerate of the people around you. Ask permission before making changes that will affect others. Be grateful for what you have, not envious of those who have more. Your attitude will make a difference in what transpires. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Prepare for advancement every way possible. Dressing for success will help you make a good impression. Keep control of your emotions and be sure you know what you are talking about. Don't try to wing it. Love and romance are featured. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Delve into creative endeavors and choose to do the things that will help you avoid a run-in that could cause grief. Hard work and success are the best ways to handle people who oppose or irritate you. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Pay more attention to the way you look. A physical challenge will prove to be exhilarating and will help ease your stress. A change of location or visiting a place you've never been before will encourage you to expand your beliefs. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Put yourself and your family first. Refuse to let anyone take you for granted or use emotional manipulation to make you feel guilty. Take care of your own affairs. Protect your cash and possessions from fast talkers. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Head to where your skills and knowledge will be the most valuable. The input you offer will make a difference in how well you do. Don't neglect someone you love. Sharing an emotional moment will have a profound effect on you. ✪✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Pay close attention to detail and accuracy. If you want to contribute something, make sure it's doable before you commit. A friend, peer or someone you deal with daily will give you a false impression of what's expected of you. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive, kind and appealing. You are creative and articulate.

Eugenia's websites — eugenialast.com for Ask Eugenia, daily timing and compatibility services, and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		6		9		7	8	
1				4		5		
3	8		6					9
			2		9	1		
9	7						6	2
		4	8		7			
2					4		5	7
		5		7				3
	1	9		2		6		

Difficulty Level ★ 8/28

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

2	8	3	9	5	6	7	1	4
4	6	7	8	2	1	9	3	5
9	1	5	4	7	3	2	8	6
6	7	4	3	8	9	5	2	1
1	5	9	6	4	2	3	7	8
8	3	2	5	1	7	4	6	9
3	9	8	2	6	4	1	5	7
7	2	6	1	9	5	8	4	3
5	4	1	7	3	8	6	9	2

Difficulty level ★★★★

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

NORFOLK, VIRGINIA Solution: 12 letters

D	N	A	L	A	B	M	I	T	I	M	R	E	I	D
B	Y	T	A	E	S	L	E	H	C	R	N	A	R	O
T	R	L	H	C	R	U	H	C	S	L	L	E	W	I
O	O	A	B	U	T	H	T	I	M	S	D	L	O	G
W	T	N	M	R	G	U	S	T	I	N	E	E	R	G
N	C	T	I	B	T	Y	B	N	A	R	G	O	Ⓑ	O
P	A	I	C	O	L	E	A	X	S	T	P	Ⓐ	U	L
O	F	C	H	U	B	E	E	E	F	I	Ⓢ	H	E	F
I	D	O	A	S	R	L	T	R	R	Ⓔ	L	S	T	Z
N	I	C	E	H	A	S	O	O	T	A	A	K	N	T
T	A	E	L	Y	E	B	P	N	N	S	V	C	E	L
P	M	A	N	B	R	E	A	F	E	J	A	U	C	U
A	R	N	O	A	R	R	A	V	R	O	N	T	N	H
R	E	R	H	A	G	S	L	L	A	H	Y	T	I	C
K	M	A	C	A	R	T	H	U	R	N	T	A	V	S

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Alexander, Area, Atlantic Ocean, Attucks, Base, Boush, Brambleton, Bruce, Chelsea, Church, City Hall, Fish, Goldsmith, Golf, Granby, Grant, Green, Gustin, Harbor, John, Kenny, MacArthur, Mermaid Factory, Michael, Naro, Naval, NorVa, Opera, Rob Estes, Schultz, St. Paul, Street, Timbaland, Tim Reid, Town Point Park, Vincent, Wells

Last Friday's Answer: Rollin Hand

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Cook (2): Must be experienced & skilled in preparing Japanese cuisine including but not limited to sushi, sashimi, & tempura. Can prepare all menu items according to quantity menus, must know cutting and preparation techniques for each type of fish used in sushi rolls as well as how to prepare rice, sauces and seasonal ingredients, must ensure that ingredients are fresh, colorful and always in stock, that the all-important knives are sharp and clean, and that all equipment is in working order. Must be able to maintain kitchen & observe safety & sanitary food handling practices as well as other related duties.

Restaurant Waitress (3): Greeting Customers. Must be able to speak basic Japanese & efficient English & have a friendly & outgoing personality. Should be knowledgeable of the restaurant dishes, familiar with the entire menu the establishment offers. Can introduce & recommend daily specials as well as the restaurant's regular menu items. Continued services after the meal have been served and accept payments & other duties related.

General Maintenance (2): Duties may involve skills in electrical, plumbing, carpentry, masonry, painting, landscape or maintain grounds of property using hand or power tools or equipment. Can typically perform variety of task such as sod laying, mowing, trimming, planting, watering, fertilizing, digging, raking and installing , repairing buildings, floors or stairs.

Additional Requirements: All applicants must be of good health and have a good moral character, must be able to follow grooming standards, must be able to obtain required food handler health certificate, must be able to provide current police clearance, with reliable transportation and must agree to drug test. Can work in flexible hours including weekends and night time.

Applicants of positions listed above except Restaurant Waitress (3 months work experience) are required to have a minimum of 2 - 4 year experience. Applications can be picked up at Kinpachi Restaurant in Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan.

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INVITATION TO BID
ITB NOs.: ITB17-JUDICIARY-08
ITB17-JUDICIARY-09

SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 13, 2017, 10:00 A.M.

ITB17-JUDICIARY-08: "PURCHASE OF A NEW 2016-2017 VEHICLE (5 Door All Wheel Drive Utility Vehicle) WITH SHIPPING TO TINIAN

ITB17-JUDICIARY-09: "PURCHASE OF A NEW 2016-2017 VEHICLE (5 Door All Wheel Drive Utility Vehicle) WITH SHIPPING TO ROTA

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THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ALEXANDRO C. CASTRO
JUDICIARY EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY

/S/ JOHN T. VILLAGOMEZ
JUDICIARY PROCUREMENT OFFICER

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- Must be organized and able to consistently meet hard deadlines.
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- Experience with QuickBooks preferred.
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- Have working experience in an accounting clerk/auditor preferred.
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E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 05-2017

Opening date: August 28, 2017 **Closing date: September 15, 2017**

Positions:(1) Tinian Ports Manager (Tinian) (1) Equipment Operator-I (Saipan)
(1)ARFF Maintenance-I (Saipan) (1) General Maintenance-II (Rota-Seaport)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official sealed transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the ***CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport or CPA Administration Office West Tinian International Airport or Benjamin T. Manglona Rota International Airport***. Failure to provide any of the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening, 10 year Criminal History Record Check and 49 CFR Part 1542.209(d) Requirements. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents to the CPA Administration Office (Saipan) or at the West Tinian International Airport or Benjamin T. Manglona Rota International Airport is no later than ***5:00 p.m Friday, September 15, 2017.***

Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions shall be picked up along with the application form from Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., except on holidays, at the CPA's Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Arrival Terminal or CPA Admin. Office at the West Tinian International Airport or at the Benjamin T. Manglona Rota International Airport. For additional information, please contact the CPA Human Resources Office by email at cpa.personnel@pticom.com or by phone at (670) 237-6500.

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CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

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Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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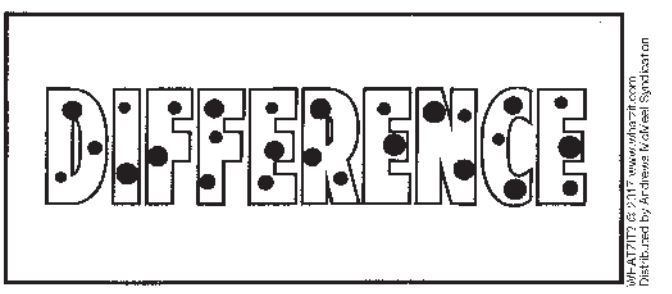

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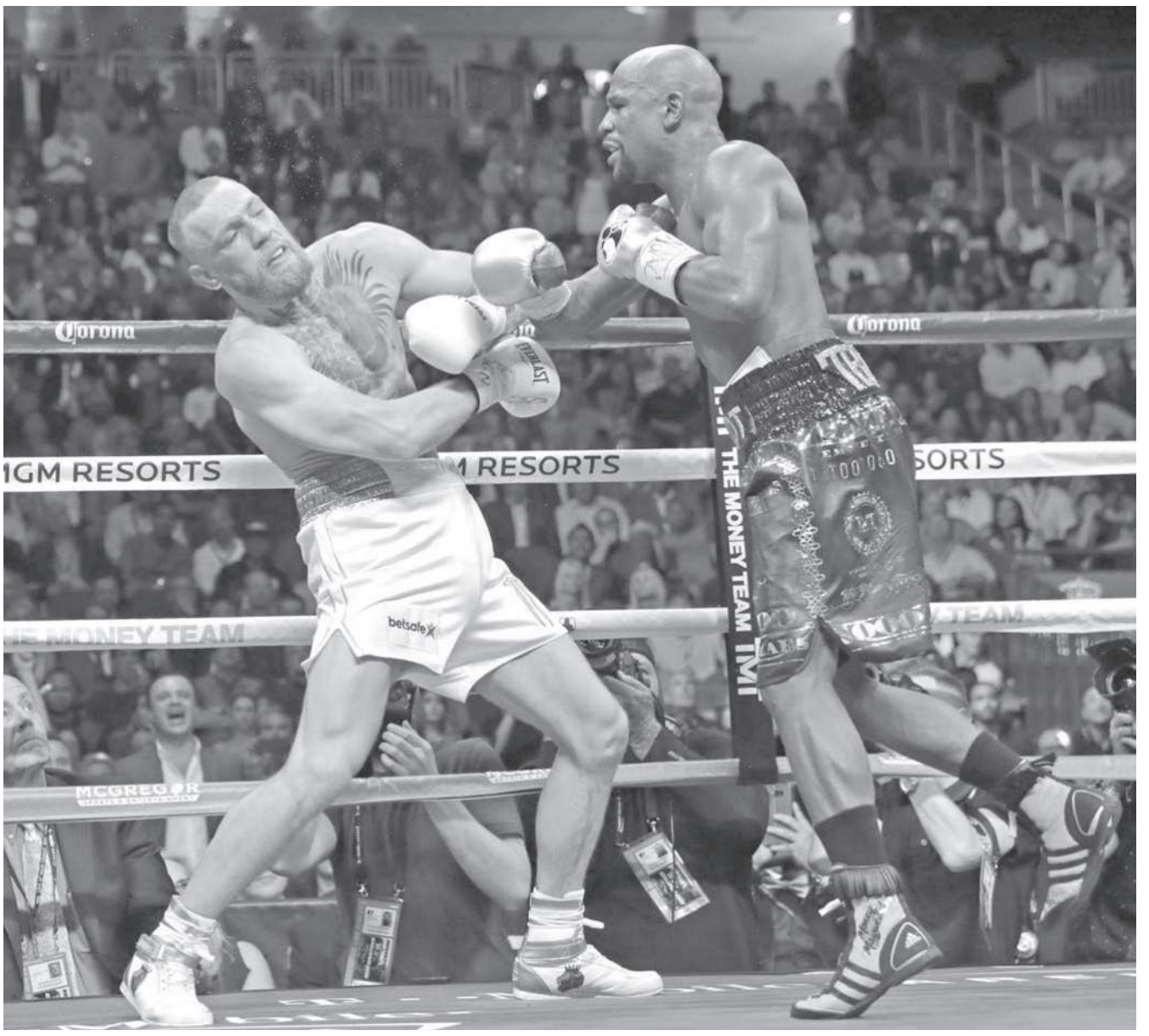
Find today's solution in classified section

Mayweather dominates McGregor in late rounds to go 50-0



AP
Floyd Mayweather Jr. hits Conor McGregor in a super welterweight boxing match Saturday, Aug. 26, 2017, in Las Vegas.

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Floyd Mayweather Jr. put on a show in the last fight of his spectacular career.

Conor McGregor didn't do so badly, either.

Mayweather figured out a 50th opponent Saturday night, letting McGregor have the early rounds before stalking him late and leaving the mixed martial artist defenseless and exhausted on the ropes in the 10th round.

It was a smashing end to a career that earned Mayweather more money than any fighter before him—including an estimated $200 million for his last bout.

"I think we gave the fans what they wanted to see," Mayweather said. "I owed them for the (Manny) Pacquiao fight."

Mayweather battered McGregor around the ring in the later rounds, finally stopping him at 1:05 of the 10th with a flurry of punches that forced referee Robert Byrd to stop the fight.

Before a pro-McGregor crowd that roared every time the UFC fighter landed a punch, Mayweather methodically broke him down after a slow start to score his first real stoppage in nearly a decade. He did it in what he said would be his final fight, against a man who had never been in a professional boxing match before.

McGregor boxed surprisingly well but after landing some shots in the early rounds, his punches seemed to lose their steam. Mayweather then went on the pursuit. McGregor backpedaled most of the way, stopping only to throw an occasional flurry as Mayweather wore him down.

"I turned him into a Mexican tonight," McGregor said. "He fought like a Mexican."

Though Byrd cautioned McGregor for hitting behind the head on two different occasions, there were no real fouls in the fight and McGregor never tried to revert to any MMA tactics

McGregor had vowed to knock Mayweather out within two rounds, and he won the early rounds with movement and punches to the head. But the tide of the fight turned in the fourth round as Mayweather seemed to figure out what he had to do and began aggressively stalking McGregor.

Mayweather was credited with landing more than half his punches, as he solved McGregor's defense after a few rounds. Ringside stats showed him landing 170 of 320 punches to 111 of 430 for McGregor.

In a fight so intriguing that it cost $10,000 for ringside seats, McGregor turned in a respectable performance for someone in his first fight. He switched from southpaw to conventional at times and used his jab well, but Mayweather's experience and his ring savvy paid off as he executed his game plan to perfection.

"Our game plan was to take our time, go to him and take him out in the end," Mayweather said. "I guaranteed everybody this fight wouldn't go the distance.

McGregor was trailing badly on all three ringside scorecards through the ninth round, with scores of 89-81, 89-81 and 87-83. The Associated Press had it 87-84.

Mayweather was widely criticized for not going after Pacquiao in their megafight, and he didn't make the same mistake this time. In a fight that could make him $200 million, he seemed to stagger McGregor with a series of punches in the ninth round, landing at will as McGregor desperately tried to clinch.

The end was near as the two fighters came out for the 10th round and Mayweather went right after McGregor again. He landed a punch that set McGregor reeling across the ring, then landed a combination that had McGregor defenseless as Byrd moved in to stop the bout. McGregor didn't complain when the fight was stopped and went over and hugged Mayweather.

"I was a little fatigued," he said. "He was composed in there, that's what 50 pro fights can give you."

He seemed almost happy in the ring afterward, secure that he had given a good performance even in losing.

"I thought it was close though and I thought it was a bit of an early stoppage. I was just a little fatigued."

McGregor's challenge of Mayweather was fueled by social media and turned into a spectacle as the two fighters promoted the bout. It figured to make him $100 million or so, and gave McGregor a name and brand outside of the UFC.

He also got some respect from a fighter who has been in the ring his entire life.

"He's a lot better than I thought he'd be," Mayweather said. "He's a tough competitor, but I was the better man tonight."

After all the talk and hype, the fight unfolded like most in boxing figured it would. Mayweather, a 5-1 favorite, took a few rounds to establish his dominance but once he did it was a one-sided fight.

Mayweather ran his record to 50-0, surpassing Rocky Marciano's 49-0 record and giving himself a great parting gift. He repeated afterward that he was not going to fight again.

"This is my last fight for sure. 50-0 sounds good, I'm looking forward to going into the Hall of Fame," Mayweather said. "I picked the best dance partner to do it with.

Irish fans arrived by the thousands in the days before the fight, filling the arena for the weigh-in and boisterously cheering for their man. They even went off in the middle of the night and spray painted an Irish flag and "49-1" on a billboard on Interstate 15 promoting Mayweather's businesses.

The capacity crowd of 14,623 cheered McGregor on, but they quieted as the fight progressed and Mayweather showed his dominance.

AP sources say Cavs reviewing Irving-Thomas trade

CLEVELAND (AP)—Just went it appeared the Cavaliers' chaotic summer had calmed, there's a flare-up.

That blockbuster deal between Cleveland and Boston is stuck.

The Cavaliers have some concerns about guard Isaiah Thomas' health and are doing a "deep and thorough" review of the deal that brought him over from the Celtics, two people with knowledge of the situation told The Associated Press on Saturday.

On Tuesday, the Cavaliers rocked the NBA by honoring All-Star guard Kyrie Irving's trade request and dealing him to the Celtics—one of their biggest rivals—for Thomas and a lucrative package that included an unprotected 2018 first-round draft pick.

The two people said the trade has not been completed and the Cavs are continuing to do a medical evaluation on Thomas, who injured his right hip last season and had to drop out of the Eastern Conference finals against Cleveland. They spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity because the team is not publicly discussing its plans.

After Irving demanded to be traded in July, the Cavaliers entertained numerous offers before striking a deal with Boston. In exchange for Irving, the Celtics agreed to send Thomas, forward Jae Crowder, center Ante Zizic and the first-round pick they acquired from the Brooklyn Nets to Cleveland.

ESPN reported Friday night that the Cavaliers are "considering possible ramifications" after Thomas took his physical.

According to the NBA's collective bargaining agreement, a trade can be voided if a player fails his physical.

The Cavaliers and Celtics have until Wednesday to finalize the trade, pending the completion of physicals. It's common practice for teams to perform comprehensive medical exams on players with prior medical issues, and the Cavs were well aware of Thomas' history.

If Cleveland isn't satisfied with its findings on Thomas, the club could scrap the trade. That seems unlikely, however, because the three-time defending conference champions were determined to deal Irving before training camp, and the Cavaliers coveted a high draft pick they can use to acquire another star next season or select a top-tier talent in the draft.

The Cavs could also request the Celtics alter the trade by giving them another player or pick.

This is all new ground for general manager Koby Altman, who has only been on the job full-time since mid-July. He was promoted after former GM David Griffin left the team not long after Cleveland's loss to Golden State in the Finals.

The 34-year-old Altman has inherited a talented team, but also one that has had a tumultuous few months and could potentially lose superstar LeBron James next summer if the game's best all-around player decides to opt out of his contract and hit the free-agent market. James left Cleveland in 2010 to play in Miami, where he won two titles.

In the short term, Altman's main concern is completing the deal for Thomas, who has blossomed into one of the league's premiere playmakers in the past few seasons.

The 28-year-old, who endeared himself to fans in Boston and across the country by playing in the postseason following his sister's death, has been rehabbing the hip he initially hurt in March. Thomas aggravated it in the second round against Washington and finally limped off the floor in Game 2 of the conference finals, which Cleveland won in five games.

Thomas consulted with specialists before it was decided he did not need surgery.

The Cavs were well aware of Thomas' condition before the trade and were prepared to have their doctors examine him—as they would for any trade.

As is usual, the Cavaliers and Celtics conducted a conference call with the league office on Tuesday night before announcing a trade that ratcheted up what has been a dramatic offseason around the league with major free-agent signings, monster contracts and trades.

And it's not over.

Gausman sharp in Orioles' 7-0 win over Red Sox

BOSTON (AP)—Kevin Gausman pitched four-hit ball into the eighth inning and Tim Beckham hit a three-run homer as the Baltimore Orioles routed the Boston Red Sox for the second straight day, 7-0 on Saturday.

It was the third straight win for the Orioles, who pounded Boston 16-3 a night earlier. Jonathan Schoop added a solo homer and posted his 95th RBI, a club record for second basemen, surpassing Roberto Alomar's 94 in 1996.

The AL East-leading Red Sox dropped their third straight and saw their lead sliced to 3 1/2 games over the second-place New York Yankees.

Gausman (10-9) struck out five and walked three. He gave up four singles in 7 2/3 innings.

Eduardo Rodriguez (4-4) allowed five runs and seven hits in 6 2/3 innings, striking out seven.

AP

Baltimore Orioles' Kevin Gausman pitches during the first inning of a baseball game against the Boston Red Sox in Boston, Saturday, Aug. 26, 2017.

Yankees 6, Mariners 3

In New York, Greg Bird reached base three times in his long-awaited return to the Yankees' lineup and Jacoby Ellsbury homered and drove in four runs, leading Sonny Gray and New York over Seattle.

Bird singled, walked twice and scored in his first game since May 1. He has been hobbled by ankle and foot problems.

Ellsbury hit a three-run homer and an RBI single. He connected off Yovani Gallardo (5-10) in a matchup of playoff contenders.

Gray (8-8) struck out nine in seven innings and allowed one run on three hits, including a homer by Carlos Ruiz. It was the 11th straight start Gray hasn't permitted more than two earned runs, the best string by anyone in the majors this year. Five of those games have come since he was traded from Oakland to the Yankees on July 31.

Dellin Betances worked the ninth for his 10th save.

Blue Jays 10, Twins 9

In Toronto, Josh Donaldson had three hits, including a two-run homer, Kendrys Morales added a solo shot and Toronto withstood a late rally by Minnesota.

Max Kepler hit a grand slam and Eduardo Escobar had a two-run drive for the Twins, who began the day with a slim lead in a crowded race for the second AL wild card.

Minnesota lost for the 11th time in 13 meetings with the Blue Jays.

Donaldson keyed a six-run fifth inning with his 23rd homer as the Blue Jays opened an 8-2 lead.

After Kepler cut it to 8-7 with his slam off Ryan Tepera in the eighth, Donaldson's RBI double off John Curtiss in the bottom half gave Toronto a two-run cushion. Donaldson later scored on a wild pitch to make it 10-7.

The 2015 AL MVP, Donaldson owns a .376 (50 for 133) career batting average in 35 games against Minnesota, with 15 doubles and 14 home runs.

Marco Estrada (6-8) allowed three runs in six innings to win for the second time in 16 starts since May 27. Roberto Osuna earned his 34th save in 42 chances.

Dillon Gee (1-1) took the loss in his second start with the Twins.

Nationals 9, Mets 4

In Washington, Adrian Sanchez drove in three runs, including an RBI single moments after he took a pitch to the chest while trying to bunt, and made a diving play to help Washington beat New York.

With second baseman Daniel Murphy getting some rest before a pinch-hitting appearance, Sanchez filled in well with a two-run single during a big first inning and ranged to his left to help pick up Gio Gonzalez (13-5) in the seventh. More remarkably, after taking a 96 mph sinker in the chest from Mets reliever Jeurys Familia that was called a foul ball, the rookie from Venezuela laced an RBI single to give the Nationals a valuable insurance run.

Mets rookie Robert Gsellman (5-6) allowed six runs (two earned) and nine hits in four innings. He was sent to the minors after the game.

Athletics 8, Rangers 3

In Oakland, California, Chad Pinder homered twice to help Oakland top Texas, ending Cole Hamels' five-game win streak.

Jed Lowrie drove in three runs for the A's, who put back-to-back victories together for the first time since Aug. 5-6 at the Los Angeles Angels.

Adrian Beltre had three RBIs for the Rangers, who lost their second straight after winning 11 of 15.

Sean Manaea (9-8) won for the first time since July 16, ending his three-game slide. He gave up two runs in five innings.

Hamels (9-1) left a game trailing for the first time all season. He was nicked for six runs and nine hits in 4 1/3 innings, matching his shortest outing of the year.

Pirates 1, Reds 0

In Cincinnati, Gerrit Cole ended his career-long futility against Cincinnati by hitting a solo homer and pitching seven innings for Pittsburgh.

Cole (11-8) was 0-6 against the Reds in nine starts, including a loss earlier this season. He broke through by holding down a lineup that had scored nine runs the previous night. Cole gave up five hits, didn't walk a batter and fanned six.

He also connected for his first homer of the season and the third of his career off Luis Castillo (2-7) in the sixth, getting around on a 95 mph inside fastball. It was Cole's first homer since May 26, 2016, against Arizona at PNC Park.

Cole is 8-0 in his last nine road starts. The last Pirates pitcher to win eight straight road decisions was Don Robinson in 1982.

Juan Nicasio and Felipe Rivero completed the five-hitter, with the left-hander getting his 15th save in 16 chances.

The Pirates won for only the third time in 13 games against their Ohio River rivals this season.

Brewers 3, Dodgers 0

In Los Angeles, Zach Davies pitched seven dominant innings for his second scoreless start against Los Angeles this season, and Orlando Arcia hit a two-run homer for Milwaukee.

Davies (15-7) also held the major league-leading Dodgers (91-37) without a run over six innings in a June 4 win at Milwaukee.

Los Angeles went with a bullpen game, using six relievers. All were effective but Josh Ravin (0-1), who gave up a leadoff single to Manny Pina in the fifth and then Arcia's 13th home run.

Davies allowed only three hits. He did not walk a batter and struck out seven. Corey Knebel pitched the ninth for his 28th save.

Diamondbacks 2, Giants 1

In Phoenix, A.J. Pollock and J.D. Martinez homered off San Francisco ace Madison Bumgarner, and that was enough for Arizona.

Bumgarner (3-6) allowed five hits in seven innings against the Diamondbacks, who have won four of five and lead the NL wild-card standings.

Taijuan Walker (7-7) was just as good, yielding one run and four hits in 6 1/3 innings. He retired his first 11 batters before Jarrett Parker homered in the fourth.

Three relievers combined to hold the Giants to one hit in 2 2/3 innings. Fernando Rodney worked a perfect ninth for his 32nd save in 37 opportunities.

Cardinals 6, Rays 4

In St. Louis, Tommy Pham hit a two-run homer in the ninth inning and St. Louis rallied to beat Tampa Bay.

It was Pham's first career walk-off homer and the fourth this season for the Cardinals.

Matt Carpenter beat out an infield single before Pham hit a 2-2 pitch from Brad Boxberger (3-4) for his 17th homer of the season.

The Cardinals tied it at 4 in the eighth with two runs off the Rays' bullpen. Yadier Molina's two-out, run-scoring single off Tommy Hunter scored Pham, and singles by Jedd Gyorko and Stephen Piscotty loaded the bases. Boxberger gave up an RBI single to Kolten Wong.

Tyler Lyons (2-0) pitched the ninth to earn the win.

Lucas Duda, Corey Dickerson and Adeiny Hechavarria homered for Tampa Bay.

Indians 4, Royals 0

In Cleveland, Mike Clevinger pitched six sharp innings and rookie Bradley Zimmer made a sensational catch in center field before ending Jason Hammel's bid for a perfect game, leading Cleveland over Kansas City.

Roberto Perez hit a two-run homer off Hammel (6-10), and Edwin Encarnacion and Carlos Santana also connected as the defending AL champions moved a season-high 16 games over .500 at 72-56.

The Royals fell eight games back in the AL Central and were shut out for the second straight night. They have not scored in 25 innings.

Clevinger (7-5) struck out a career-high nine and matched Hammel pitch for pitch before giving way to Cleveland's bullpen.

Hammel was perfect for 5 1/3 innings before Zimmer singled.

Cubs 17, Phillies 2

In Philadelphia, Anthony Rizzo and Tommy La Stella homered twice, Kyle Hendricks pitched seven strong innings and Chicago easily overcame another home run from Philadelphia rookie Rhys Hoskins.

Kris Bryant and Ben Zobrist also went deep for the NL Central-leading Cubs, who tied their season high for homers and hits (17) while setting new marks for runs and margin of victory. Rizzo had five RBIs and La Stella added four.

Angels 7, Astros 6

In Anaheim, California, Andrelton Simmons hit a three-run homer in the eighth inning and Los Angeles rallied late from five runs down to beat Houston.

Kole Calhoun singled home Mike Trout with two outs in the eighth to make it 6-4. Simmons then slipped and finished his swing on one knee but still drove a slider from Tyler Clippard (2-8) over the left-field fence, sending Angel Stadium fans into a frenzy.

Los Angeles snapped a three-game skid. The Angels and Seattle Mariners are a half-game behind Minnesota in a packed race for the second AL wild card.

Marlins 2, Padres 1, 11 innings

In Miami, Miguel Rojas hit a one-out sacrifice fly in the 11th inning, and Miami won for the 12th time in 15 games by beating San Diego.

The Padres kept Giancarlo Stanton stuck on 49 homers. He singled twice and struck out twice in four at-bats.

Derek Dietrich led off the 11th with a double against Jose Torres (7-4). Dietrich advanced on a sacrifice bunt, and with the Padres deploying five infielders, Rojas hit a drive that forced right fielder Jabari Blash to retreat to make the catch, allowing Dietrich to score easily.

Rockies 7, Braves 6

In Atlanta, Charlie Blackmon hit a tiebreaking, two-run homer in the ninth inning off Arodys Vizcaino, and Colorado held on to beat Atlanta.

DJ LeMahieu added two solo homers and Trevor Story had a two-run double as the Rockies improved to 6-12 since Aug. 6. Colorado began the day with a 3 1/2-game lead for the second NL wild card, but had lost 24 of 31 on the road.

Vizcaino (3-3), who had a 1.42 ERA in his last 41 games, was not in a save situation, but the Atlanta closer allowed three runs and three hits without recording an out. He was pulled after LeMahieu's sixth homer made it 7-4.

Tigers 6, White Sox 3

In Chicago, Justin Upton and Miguel Cabrera hit back-to-back homers in Detroit's three-run third inning, sparking the Tigers to a rainy win against Chicago.

Cabrera finished with three hits as Detroit won for just the fifth time in 20 games. Buck Farmer (3-1) pitched into the sixth inning after he was recalled from Triple-A Toledo for his first major league start since June 18.

Shane Greene got five outs for his fifth save.

With two outs and a runner on second, Upton connected against Carlos Rodon for his 28th homer. Cabrera followed with a drive to right that just cleared the glove of a leaping Avisail Garcia, giving the Tigers a 3-2 lead.

Over 2,000 athletes, officials signed up for Mini Games

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

VANUATU MINI GAMES PHOTO
The newly-built Convention Centre will be the Athletes Center and Dining Hall for the 2017 Pacific Mini Games that will be held in Vanuatu in December.

More than 2,000 athletes and officials have registered for the 2017 Pacific Mini Games.

The latest numbers were reported during the Chef De Mission Meeting in Port Vila, Vanuatu last Aug. 18 and of these figure, 1,665 are athletes. Other athletes and officials who have yet to sign up for the Mini Games, that will run from Dec. 4 to 15, have until Oct. 20 to register. Over 3,000 are expected to participate in the Mini Games that will feature 14 sports and 24 nations, including New Zealand and Australia, which will compete in selected events.

Meanwhile, organizers of the Mini Games have also announced the schools designated to house athletes and officials from the participating countries. The CNMI, along with Tuvalu, Palau, Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and Tokelau will be billeted at Anabrou School. The host, Wallis & Futuna, New Zealand, and Norfolk Island will stay at Fresh-wota School, while Lycee School is assigned to New Caledonia, Solomon Islands, Niue and Samoa. Papua New Guinea, Tahiti, American Samoa, and Guam will be quartered at National Institute of Technology, while Fiji, Cook Islands, Tonga, Australia, Nauru, and Kiribati will be at Central School.

The newly-built Convention Centre will be the Athletes Center and Dining Hall, taking care of the needs of the athletes, VIPs, and officials.

Van2017 CEO Clint Flood and Jean Francois Metmetsan, executive officer of the Prime Minister's Office, last week signed an agreement to allocate access to the Convention Centre. The facility also houses the Van2017 official merchandiser shop, internet services and internet cafe, foreign currency exchange booth, a coffee shop, beverage vending machines, a convenience shop, and a recreational area with a pool table, foosball (babyfoot) game, video games and movies showing once daily in the main auditorium. Technical meetings, press conferences, pastoral care services, and weighing-in of boxers daily before their bouts will be held too at the Convention Centre, while its exterior compound will be the main transport parking mall for most of the vehicles that will be used for the Mini Games. The centre will be available for operations beginning on Nov. 18 and until Dec. 21.

Mafia headed for SEDA Masters crown

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The 6JMS Mafia is the current leader in the Masters Division of the 2017 Saipan Electronic Darts Association Bud Light League.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The Scorpions defeated the Bull-It in their game in Wednesday's Chichirika Division of the 2017 Saipan Electronic Darts Association Bud Light League.

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The 6JMS Mafia seemed headed to clinch the Masters Division title in last week's results in the 2017 Saipan Electronic Darts Association Bud Light League held in various bars on the island.

Mafia enjoys an 18-win lead over the Oleai Nakayoshi in the division's four-team field. The 6JMS-sponsored squad holds a 210-113 card, while the Nakayoshi has a 182-141 slate with five weeks left in the division's schedule.

The 6JMS Pythons could assure itself of third place with a 151-172 record with the Chow Time Calamity Fun (103-220) completing the standings.

The Mafia's current record was built around a 16-1 thrashing of Calamity Fun with Gilbert Gatmaitan, Omar Quindoza, Erwin Clavecillas, and Noel Unay conspiring for the one-sided win.

The Calamity Fun's Roy Tereyama, SEDA league secretary Warlee Ellama, Greg Sasamoto, and Adrian Montalbo could not match the Mafia's intensity in that humbling loss. Ellama scored the lone win for Calamity Fun when he defeated Quindoza in one of the four Singles Regular Cricket matches.

The Oleai Nakayoshi completed an 11-6 decision against the 6JMS Pythons in the other scheduled match.

Other results last week were as follows:

A Division
- 101 Proofers 14, Warriors 3
- Mafia 12, Predators 5
- D'Mekaniks 11, Gunners 6
- Ridin'Darrty 9, Dragon Masters 6

Ladies
- Exquisites 11, Momshies 4

Tuesday B
- LOL 13, Chamberos 2
- Lupeyt Boyz 11, Warriors 4
- Strikers 11, Xecutionerz 4

Chichirika C
- Flukers 10, Bulls Hitters 5
- Scorpions 10, Bull-It 5
- Knights 8, Hut Shot 7

Kingfisher C
- Re-Darts 9, Sunsports 6
- Dart Vader 8, Ridin'Darrty 7
- Hit'em Up 8, Parakeyu 7

Fanihi B
- Mafia 12, Bandits 3
- 80 Proofers 9, D'Strikers 6
- Draft Crafters 8, Shaka 7

Flame Tree B
- Serial Killaz 12, Jump It 3
- S.O.L. 10, Na'Gupu 5
- Ridin'Darrty 10, Dartaholics 5
- Drillers 9, Real Deal 6

HERAS

From Page 28

Platform Sports Management, which according to its website, is a company that focuses on providing a pathway for students who wish to excel in their sports within the American college system. Platform Sports was instrumental in placing Palau's Ayana Rengiil to Division I Alabama A&M University on an athletic scholarship.

"I will be finishing my senior year in May of 2018 and plan to go to college in the fall. A few college coaches have contacted me to play for their team, but I have not yet committed to any school. I will narrow down my college choices as the months progress," said the 16-year-old player, who just came from Fiji after competing in the 2017 Oceania Closed Junior Championships early this month.

"There are many people I want to thank for helping me reach this level in tennis. I want to thank my parents for their support, time, and money they put in for me to excel in tennis. I also want to thank Coach Jeff (Race) for being my tennis coach ever since I started playing. He has definitely helped me become the tennis player I am today," Heras said.

The CNMI player is ranked No. 1,559 as of Aug. 21 and was once at No. 1,329 after earning 15 ranking points in singles and five in doubles.

MIBF

From Page 28

ing with Rota and Tinian officials to facilitate the islands' respective tournaments.

Only teams competing in the adults division will be considered for the selection of the squad that will represent the CNMI to the Mini Games. The champion team (men's division only) in the final leg will earn the ticket to Vanuatu that will host the Mini Games from Dec. 4 to 15. The 3x3 tournament will be held during the second week of the event or from Dec. 11 to 14 at a new venue being constructed at Korman 2.

The CNMI is one of the 11 countries that immediately committed to send a team to the Mini Games despite the late inclusion of the sport (last month) to the calendar of events of the quadrennial meet. The Commonwealth will be joined by the host, Fiji, Guam, Tahiti, New Caledonia, Samoa, Papua New Guinea, Palau, Solomon Islands, and American Samoa.

Besides the 3x3 basketball, other sports to be contested in Vanuatu are archery, athletics, beach volleyball, boxing, football, rugby 7s, judo, golf, karate, netball, tennis, and weightlifting, and table tennis. The CNMI will also send athletes to golf, rugby 7s, and athletics competitions.

Meanwhile, any companies/organizations that want to support the 3x3 Hoop Fest and help MIBF defray the costs of holdings the qualifiers can contact MIBF general secretary Elias Rangamar at 234-6672 and 287-6347 for more information.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	73	56	.566	—
New York	69	59	.539	3½
Baltimore	64	65	.496	9
Tampa Bay	64	67	.489	10
Toronto	61	68	.473	12

Central Division

Cleveland	72	56	.563	—
Minnesota	66	63	.512	6½
Kansas City	64	64	.500	8
Detroit	56	72	.438	16
Chicago	51	77	.398	21

West Division

Houston	78	51	.605	—
Seattle	66	64	.508	12½
Los Angeles	66	64	.508	12½
Texas	64	65	.496	14
Oakland	57	72	.442	21

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Washington	77	50	.606	—
Miami	65	63	.508	12½
Atlanta	57	70	.449	20
New York	56	72	.438	21½
Philadelphia	47	81	.367	30½

Central Division

Chicago	69	59	.539	—
Milwaukee	67	63	.515	3
St. Louis	65	64	.504	4½
Pittsburgh	62	68	.477	8
Cincinnati	55	75	.423	15

West Division

Los Angeles	91	37	.711	—
Arizona	72	58	.554	20
Colorado	70	59	.543	21½
San Diego	57	72	.442	34½
San Francisco	52	79	.397	40½

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2017 Guam Marianas International Fishing Derby

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

From left, *Victoria* captain Diego Benavente, and anglers Scott Shular, and Rep. Joseph Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan) pose with the 24.9-lb mahi they caught during the last day of the Guam Marianas International Fishing Derby held on Aug. 19 and 20.

Budweiser
GUAM FISHERMEN'S COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION
22ND ANNUAL
GUAM MARIANAS INTERNATIONAL FISHING DERBY
AUGUST 19TH & 20TH, 2017
ENTRY FEE : $200 PER BOAT - 100 BOAT LIMIT
CAPTAIN'S MEETING
THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 2017 @ 6PM
AT THE GUAM FISHERMEN'S CO-OP, HAGATNA

From left, Rep. Joseph Deleon Guerrero, Scott Shular, and Diego and Vicky Benavente present their mahi for weigh-in.

Associate Justice Perry Inos Sr., third left, of *Bella* and his crewmembers pose with the 493-lb marlin they caught on Day 1 of the tournament.

One of the participating teams pose with their over 200-lb marlin.

Boats line up waiting for the start of the competition.

A tournament staff helps load a marlin to the weighing scale.

Stonefish crewmembers pose with their 339.5-lb marlin.

A group of fishermen with its young supporters present their skipjack and yellow fin tunas.

Mayweather dominates McGregor in late rounds to go 50-0

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Gausman sharp in Orioles' 7-0 win over Red Sox

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Heras offered full scholarship

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

CNMI junior tennis player Isabel Heras has been offered a full scholarship to play in a collegiate team in New Mexico, but she is leaving her doors open for other opportunities.

Heras is being lured by New Mexico Military Institute, the same school where Thea Minor played her first two years in college before moving up to NCAA Division II Henderson State University in Arkansas last year. Another former junior player from the Commonwealth, Mikayla Lopez, finished her rookie season with NMMI last school year. Former Oceania Tennis Federation development officer Dan O'Connell coaches NMMI and Heras is thankful for the former for his interest in bringing her to the team and giving her the chance to continue playing the sport after her high school graduation.

"Playing your sport in college is definitely a dream come true for student-athletes, especially when you are offered a full scholarship. I have been offered a full ride to NMMI, but unfortunately I will not be taking the offer. Instead of playing for NMMI—a junior college—I am aiming to play for a Division I or II college," said Heras, a senior at Marianas High School.

To help her shop for a Division I or II collegiate squad, Heras has signed up with

See HERAS on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Isabel Heras, seen here competing in a local tournament at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan tennis courts, is aiming to play in NCAA Division I or II school.

MIBF 3x3 Hoop Fest schedule finalized

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Marianas Islands Basketball Federation has released the final schedule for the Inaugural FIBA 3x3 Hoop Fest.

The competition, which aims at selecting the CNMI's representatives for the 3x3 tournament in the 2017 Pacific Mini Games in Vanuatu in December, is divided into four parts. The first leg will be held on Saipan from Sept. 5 to 9, while the second will take place on Tinian Sept. 16 and 17. Rota's own tournament will be held on Sept. 23 and 24 and the winners in all first three legs will play in the semis and finals set for Sept. 30 and Oct. 1 at the Civic Center Court in Susupe.

Rota and Tinian are included in the event as per requirements of FIBA, which mandates its members having qualifying tournaments for any regional/international competition to open the competition to all stakeholders. MIBF is coordinat-

See MIBF on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Armatech's Bruce Berline, left, tries to tap the ball away from Shirley's Perry Inos, while Haejun Park closes in for help defense during the fourth quarter of their game in an outdoor league last year at Civic Center Basketball Court, which will be the venue of the finals of the MIBF 3x3 Hoop Fest.

Brotherhood regains winning form

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Brotherhood bounced back from a shocking loss last week by manhandling Karui, 28-7, in the first game of a quadruple match in the 2017 Belau Masters Men's Softball League yesterday at the Dandan Softball field.

Its once unblemished record tarnished last week by Momma Charu, Brotherhood made sure there won't be another upset loss and immediately flexed its muscles right from the opening pitch of the shortened match courtesy of the mercy rule.

John Terlaje had a lead-off walk and touched home plate on a Ken Kalen sacrifice fly. Brotherhood then went on to score 12 runs on 12 hits highlighted by home runs each by Bill Camacho, Jerry Ayuyu, and Terlaje as the inning went back to the top of the batting order.

Brotherhood added 11 more runs in the top of the second to make it 24-3 with Terlaje blasting his second homer and Ayuyu adding his own round-tripper and a triple.

Terlaje gave up seven hits and was supported by Brotherhood's excellent defense after forcing Karui's batters to either fly outs or line drives.

Ayuyu, Terlaje, Jack Diaz, and Bill Quitugua went perfect at the plate going 3-for-3 and combining for 12 RBIs as Brotherhood improved to 11-1 while Karui dropped to 6-5.

Ayuyu scored thrice with two homers and a triple while Terlaje had four runs and homered twice. Diaz had a double and three runs, while Quitugua touched home plate three times.

In the second game, Asahi clinched its fourth win in seven games after carving out a 22-16 decision against Red Torch, which dropped its 11th straight match.

JON PEREZ
Team Asahi celebrates its 22-16 victory against Red Torch in yesterday's game of the 2017 Belau Masters Men's Softball League at the Dandan Softball field.